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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial.

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THE SALT OF THE EARTH.

AN ORIGINAL STORY.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE

Weekly Commercial.

We shall commence the publication, in our

Weekly of Saturday, January 2,

of an Original Serial Story, entitled

"THE SALT OF THE EARTH,"

BY

Mrs. Edith Browne Nelson,

of this city, which will run through the ensuing thirteen weeks. The scene of the story is partly in Pittsburgh and partly in New York, and opens up with a great deal of interest.

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

NEW ORLEANS.

Post Mortem on the Slain Byerly.

NEW ORLEANS, December 28.—The Byerly inquest will be held to-morrow. Drs. Schumaker and Stone held a *post mortem*, which resulted as follows: There were found to be six wounds, only one of which was superficial, that being a slight flesh wound over the abdomen. Any one of the other five would have caused death. Two of them were in the left side of the back, penetrating the spleen. These were the immediate cause of death. The other three wounds penetrated the side between the fifth and sixth, and seventh and eighth ribs, and would have caused death in a couple of weeks from pneumonia, though they were not of an immediately dangerous character.

THE PRESS ON SHERIDAN.

Commenting on the report that Sheridan has been ordered to New Orleans, the papers of this city have the following:

The *Times* says: "One of the questions of the day is whether Phil. Sheridan is to ride down this way or not. Phil has been here before. His reputation as a rider and a raider stands high, but as a soother of political troubles and corrector of political abuses, he is anything but a success. His conduct while in command of this Department was frequently of a most short-sighted and arbitrary character, and especially was this the case in his interference with our municipal affairs. If the policy of vengeance is to be adopted, Phil. can carry it out successfully; but he is by no means the proper man to throw oil upon the troubled waters."

The *Picayune* says: "If there is one man more responsible than another for the misfortunes of Louisiana, that man is General Phil. Sheridan. It was General Sheridan who disfranchised the white people of this State, under the first reconstruction law, acting in concert with the Radical committee and secretly instructing the registrars to catechize the voters in a manner which, whilst it was clearly illegal, made it impossible for vast numbers of white people to register. It was to this man that we owe the chains from which we have never been able to escape."

The *Bulletin* says: "If our people are determined to avoid a collision with the United States forces, as we firmly believe they are, General Emory or De Trobriand—or, for the matter of that, any subaltern in command of a squad—would answer just as well as the redoubtable Sheridan, or the scalping and town-burning Tecumseh himself. Should they come to the conclusion that their self-respect and manhood required them to adopt a different course, which is seriously presumable, the fact that 'Ten-mile-away' Murrhausen Sheridan is to be their objective point, will not make a particle of difference so far as they are concerned, and it may be safely predicted that, in that case, somebody is just as likely to get hurt on one side as upon the other."

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 29, 1 A. M., 1874.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England, rain will prevail, followed by cloudy and cooler weather, southwest or northwest winds and rising barometer. For the Middle States, light rain, followed by clearing and cooler weather, north or west winds and rising barometer. For the South Atlantic States, generally clear weather, with south or west winds and slight changes in temperature and pressure. For the Gulf States, Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, generally cloudy weather and lower temperature, with areas of rain, northwest winds and rising barometer. For the Lake region decidedly colder and partly cloudy weather, southwest or northwest winds rising barometer and light snow near Lakes Erie, Huron and Ontario. For the Northwest, very cold and generally clear weather, with north or west winds, gradually shifting to southerly, and continued high barometer. The Ohio and Cumberland rivers and the rivers of Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia will rise during Tuesday.

Capture of Fifty-two Cheyennes.

ST. LOUIS, December 28.—The following information was received at army headquarters to-day: Captain Keyes, of the Tenth Cavalry, reports that he followed up the Cheyenne trail from Barris creek, on the Wachita, to the north fork of the Canadian, eighty miles distant, and captured the band, consisting of fifty-two Cheyennes, with seventy ponies. They all belonged to the band of Medicine Water and Medicine Arrow.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Captain General Concha, of Cuba, has issued orders to the officers commanding Spanish troops to act leniently toward captured or surrendered insurgents, but to execute all incendiaries and filibusters who may be taken.

The Indianapolis *Sentinel* of to-day publishes a letter from the Hon. Joseph McDonald, in which he discusses his position in connection with his candidacy for the United States Senate. Special reference is made to his position on finances.

The attorney of the German bondholders petitioning in bankruptcy against the California Pacific Railroad Company has filed an amended petition. Four hundred creditors are added to the list. The aggregate indebtedness is claimed to be $3,000,000.

A Reward is Offered

for a flour that will make as much or as good bread as the great White River, for the price.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

River and Harbor Bill.

Appropriations for Western Rivers Same as Last Year.

The Committee Doubtful as to Internal Improvements.

Situation of Affairs in Louisiana Critical.

THE PRESIDENT CONFIDENT THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN PRESERVE THE PEACE.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 28, 1874.

The River and Harbor Bill.

Before the recess, the House Committee on Appropriations informally considered the River and Harbor bill. The views of the members generally favored the appropriation of the same amounts as last year. This refers particularly to the Western rivers. In the course of this discussion the subject of internal improvements came up, and did not seem to receive much encouragement from members of the committee. Some are in serious doubt as to their constitutional power to make appropriations for such purposes; others admit that Congress can decide what routes should be undertaken, and that the committee would then be obliged to report a bill appropriating the necessary means. The River and Harbor bill will be reported in a few days after the reassembling of Congress. The Sundry Civil bill will be ready about the same time.

Louisiana Affairs.

The principal topic of discussion in political circles to-day, is the Louisiana troubles. The President had made up his mind not to receive callers for the earlier part of this week, as he will be compelled on New Year's day to go through his annual infliction: but so many called to see him on Louisiana and other matters that he reconsidered his determination and saw probably about a dozen people. The President has, of course, given much attention to the condition of affairs in Louisiana, and, while not unmindful of the gravity of the situation, has no serious apprehensions that any trouble will come which cannot promptly be put down by the United States forces. During to-day a good many telegrams have been coming here from parties in New Orleans, but the most of them are colored by the personal feelings of the senders, and therefore it is not considered safe to put too much reliance in them. But it is not to be questioned that, in the present inflamed condition of the public mind in Louisiana, and in view of the efforts of men on both sides to stir up ill feeling, disorders may break out at any moment.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 28, 1874.

ACTS SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President has signed the act providing for the authentication of the revised statutes of the United States for preserving the originals of all laws in the Department of State: also the act for the relief of certain settlers on public lands, which makes it lawful for homestead and pre-emption settlers whose crops were destroyed or seriously injured by grasshoppers to be absent from said lands until July, 1876.

ANOTHER ROYAL VISIT DECLINED.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs today received an urgent petition from Red Cloud to be allowed to come on here, with some forty Sioux adherents, and settle up all troubles about the Black Hills reservation, hunting on Platte river, &c.; but Commissioner Smith replied that, on account of want of funds to pay the expenses of the would-be negotiators, their proposition must be declined.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Boston Jewelry Store Robbed.

BOSTON, December 28.—Some time between Saturday night and this morning, the jewelry store of George W. Darling & Co., 165 Washington street, was robbed of gold watches, diamonds and other articles valued at upward of $12,000. Two safes were broken open, all of the more valuable contents carefully selected, and the remainder of the stock strewn about the place.

Incendiarism at Ithaca.

ITHACA, December 28.—The barns of H. A. Ensign, milk dealer, one mile south of this place, were set on fire at an early hour this morning, and destroyed. Twenty cows were burned. About four weeks ago another dealer lost fifteen cows in the same manner. Yesterday morning an unoccupied house on Wheat street was fired, and last night four attempts were made to burn the round house of the Geneva, Ithaca and Athens Railroad.

Attempted Murder near Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 28.—A young man, named Teeters, was found in a stable at Cleves, Ohio, Sunday morning, lying among the horses, with his skull fractured in several places and insensible. He will probably die. It is supposed to be a case of attempted murder and that the body was placed there to convey the impression that the victim had been injured by the horses.

FIRE RECORD.

Batesville, Indiana—$125,000.

CINCINNATI, December 28.—A fire at Batesville, Indiana, yesterday, destroyed the furniture factory of H. Schroder & Co. The loss is estimated at over $100,000. Several adjacent dwellings were also destroyed. Loss $25,000. There is no insurance on the factory, but about $3,000 insurance on the dwellings. Nearly all the people of the town depended on the factory for a living, and its destruction will cause great suffering.

Southbridge, Mass.—$45,000.

WORCESTER, December 28.—Two brick blocks and a small wooden building on Main street, in Southbridge, were burned on Sunday last. Loss $45,000; mostly insured.

Fort Scott, Kansas—$25,000.

FORT SCOTT, December 29.—A fire Sunday evening totally destroyed Drake's block, corner of Wall and Main streets. The sufferers are C. R. Drake, C. W. Goodlander, Bright Bros., Rodecker Bros. and J. M. Strode. The loss will reach $25,000, about one-half of which is covered by insurance.

Death of Gerrit Smith.

NEW YORK, December 28.—Gerrit Smith died at about half-past twelve to-day, at the residence of General John Cochrane. Mr. Smith, in company with his wife, arrived in town last Thursday for the purpose of spending the holidays among his friends. He was in moderately good health, his cheeks being as ruddy, his eye as clear, his voice as free, his step as elastic as it had been for many years. He had made arrangements to meet Charles O'Conor Saturday. He arose early and said to Mrs. Smith that he had slept uncommonly well, stating that he had not spent so merry a Christmas for a long time as on the day before. While dressing, his utterance suddenly became indistinct, and he was gently borne to a bed, barely able to say, in a faint tone—"Very weak." He immediately became unconscious, and thus remained till the time of his death. He seemed to be suffering under a combined attack of apoplexy and paralysis.

[Gerrit Smith, who has been so long widely known as a philanthropist, was born in Utica, New York, March 6, 1797, and is consequently now in his seventy-eighth year. He graduated from Hamilton College, New York, in 1818. His father left one of the largest landed estates in the United States, the management of which has principally occupied his attention. In 1853 he was admitted to the bar and subsequently took part in several important trials. In 1825 he connected himself with the American Colonization Society and contributed largely to its treasury; but in 1835 he withdrew from it and joined the American Anti-Slavery Society. He practically illustrated his opposition to land monopoly by distributing 200,000 acres of land, partly among institutions of learning, but mostly among poor white and black men, in parcels of about fifty acres. His largest gifts of money have been in aid of emancipation and to buy homes for the poor. In 1852 he was elected to Congress from the Oswego and Madison district. He was for a long time a prominent advocate of a larger liberty of opinion, and freedom from what he believed to be the bondage of sect. In 1861 he made some speeches in behalf of a vigorous and uncompromising prosecution of the existing war, and also wrote many articles upon this subject for the press. Among the works of which he is the author, is a volume of his speeches in Congress, in 1856. "Sermons and Speeches by Gerrit Smith," published in 1861; "Nature the Base of a Free Theology," 1867; "Religion of Reason," 1864. Of late years Mr. Smith has not taken any decided part in politics. In the convention at Philadelphia, which renominated Grant in 1872, he made a speech strongly indorsing the administration, and in that campaign he strongly opposed his old friend, Horace Greeley.]

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

England.

THE BURNED EMIGRANT SHIP.

LONDON, December 28.—The ship Cospatrick, burned at sea, was from London for Auckland, New Zealand. She sailed on September 14th, and was spoken, October 8th, in latitude 14 S., longitude 24 W., and was burned in latitude 37 S., longitude 12 E., off the Cape of Good Hope.

LONDON, December 29, 5 A. M.—A telegram received by the vessel's owners confirms the reported burning of the emigrant ship Cospatrick. The Superintendent of the Brazilian telegraph cable, at Madeira, also telegraphs that only three persons are at present known to survive, namely, the second mate and two seamen. These were picked up by the British ship Sceptre, after having been ten days in an open boat, subsisting part of the time upon the flesh and blood of others who died whilst in the boat.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 28.—Steamships Pennsylvania, from Philadelphia; Braunschweig, from Baltimore, and Glamorgan, from New York, arrived out.

LONDON, December 28.—Steamships Sarmatian, from Portland, and Republic, from New York, arrived out.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 28, 5 P. M.—Consols for money 93⅜@93⅝ for account 93⅝@93⅞. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 106¾; do, 1867, 107; 10-40's, 104⅝; new 5's, 103. New York Central 93; Erie 20¼@20¾; do preferred 41. Tallow 47s 6d@48s 6d.

FRANKFORT, December 28.—United States bonds—5-20's, 1862, 98.

PARIS, December 28.—Rentes 62 francs 95 centimes.

LIVERPOOL, December 28.—Cotton quiet and steady; middling upland 7¼@7⅝d; Orleans 7⅝d; sales 12,000 bales, including 2,000 for speculation and export and 7,400 American. Breadstuffs quiet. Cheese 69s. Hams, sugar cured, 50s. Shoulders 37s.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 28, 1874.

PACIFIC MAIL INVESTIGATION.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Ways and Means, to investigate the subsidy business of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, began their session this morning in the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Mr. Cole, President of the American Exchange bank, was examined in reference to the deposits made by Irwin. He testified that on the 28th of May last two strangers entered the American Exchange bank, and one of them presented a check for $115,000, signed by Col. Irwin. He asked the presenter of the check what his name was, but this he refused to disclose. The amount was paid and the parties left, followed by a messenger, who saw them enter the Park bank. On sending to the Park bank, Cole found that the man who drew the check from the American Exchange bank gave his name as King, and stated that he was postmaster of the House of Representatives at Washington. Another sum of $275,000 was drawn by the Marine bank, on a check sent for the amount on the same day. Of the $390,000 paid that day, $250,000 was paid by certified checks, and the remainder in notes over the counter. This occurred in May, 1872. The sums Irwin deposited up to that date were only small sums, varying from $1,000 to $4,000. On the 27th of May three sums, two of $100,000 and one of $125,000, were drawn by different persons on certified checks, made payable to bearer and signed by Irwin. A large deposit of $735,000 was made on the 28th of May. The two men, who came with money on the 28th of May, appeared to know one another very well. Witness thought he could easily recognize King, but could not identify the other person. At the time of this large deposit by Irwin, witness ascertained that the sum was deposited in checks of the Pacific Mail Company. About one year after King had drawn the first sum from the American Exchange bank, he called again to draw another check, which was not so large in amount; did not know whether King had been at the bank lately. Witness left with the committee an account of Irwin with the bank.

Beaumont Clark, assistant cashier of the American Exchange bank, was sworn, and testified to following the man who drew the large sums of money. Losing sight of him, he went to the cashier of the Park bank and ascertained that the man who drew this money was Wm. S. King, postmaster of the House of Representatives; the cashier of the Park bank was J. L. Worth; had seen the gentleman who drew the $115,000 check about a year afterward; he was recognized by witness, who addressed him as King; the latter said in reply that it did not always answer to have a good memory. The witness described the person he called Mr. King as a medium-sized man, wearing bushy side whiskers; thought Irwin was in the city at this time; didn't know if Irwin drew any of these checks, but the inference was that he did.

The committee here took a recess, to have the books of the Pacific Mail Company produced, from January, 1872.

When the committee met, after adjournment, the books of the Pacific Mail Company were produced.

Samuel J. Harriott, banker and broker and member of the banking firm of Harriott & Noyes, testified that he had been five years in business; knew Stockwell, but not Irwin. During the year 1872 he had bought and sold stock of the Pacific Mail Company and Panama Railroad for him. A check numbered 2,365 was handed him to recognize, which he failed to do. The check was dated May 24th, 1872. On that date witness received no stock from the Pacific Mail Company. After referring to his books, witness stated that on the 24th of May, 1872, there was an entry of $228,756 for 4,700 shares of the stock of Pacific Mail to the credit of A. B. Stockwell. No other sum from either Irwin or Stockwell was received from the 21st of May to the 4th of June, inclusive. On the 15th of May the firm delivered 5,000 shares of Pacific Mail stock, for which they received $455,092 in checks from the company. These were all the transactions which occurred with the firm in the month of May. Never sold stocks for the Pacific Mail Company, but only for Stockwell. On the 9th of September of the same year, Stockwell deposited a check on the National bank of the Commonwealth for $500,000. This check was dated September 7th. The check was indorsed "A. B. Stockwell" and "Harriott & Noyes." On examining his books, witness stated that the entry of September 9th was: "Pacific Mail S. S. Co. (Panama) $500,000." Stockwell had for this a check from the firm on the Continental bank for $507,547. The account closed for that year on the 21 of November, 1872. On the 15th of May, 1872, the highest market price of Pacific Mail stock was 85½; 21st of May, 83½; 24th of May, 81¾; May 27th, 77½; May 31st, 79¾, and June 15th, 60.

The committee retired into private session to examine the books of the firm of Harriott & Noyes with regard to the accounts of other parties than those of Irwin. After the session had been declared open, the examination continued. Witness was told by Mr. Hatch that on the 4th of May, 1872, a check for $650,000 had been deposited with the firm by R. B. Irwin, but this, witness said, was not deposited and was not entered on their books. On the 15th of May checks on the company credited to Stockwell for stock valued at $433,612 were deposited. On the 21st of May a check for $228,745, and another for $15,000, were deposited, both for 4,700 shares of Pacific Mail stock. On the same date, checks were received from Markham to the amount of $881,250 for stock.

Mr. Delamater, cashier of the Marine National bank, was then called. On being asked with reference to the two strangers who were followed to his bank by Mr. Clark, witness desired to refresh his memory from the books of the bank, and was allowed to appear at a future time for examination.

J. L. Worth, cashier of the Park National bank since 1863, knew Mr. King, but was not very intimate with him; had learned from the note teller that King had taken out notes of deposit amounting to $115,000, or thereabouts, in May, 1872.

Thomas Ellis, note teller of the Park National bank, testified that on the 30th of May he received from King $112,500 to be used as follows: $40,000 to be placed in the St. Paul bank, Minneapolis, Minnesota; $15,000 to pay a note about to reach maturity; $1,000 to be placed to the credit of the St. Paul bank, Minnesota, and had also issued six certificates of deposit at his instance, amounting in the aggregate to $56,459 17, issued to the order of Wm. T. King.

Adjourned.

THE KING AT CITY HALL.

This afternoon King Kalakaua and suite visited City Hall. Mayor Vance was in the Governor's room awaiting them. The reception was wholly informal, and after a brief visit the royal party re-entered their carriages and were driven away.

COLLISIONS OF FERRY BOATS—ONE MAN KILLED AND THREE FATALLY INJURED.

During a heavy fog this afternoon, as the Williamsburg ferry boat Alaska was nearing her slip on this side the river, she collided with the ferry boat Colden, killing one man and fatally injuring three others. The boats were badly damaged.

PROMINENT PHYSICIAN UNDER ARREST FOR MURDER.

Two females, whose names and addresses the police authorities decline to disclose, made affidavits to-day implicating a prominent physician of this city in the murder of his illegitimate child. The Doctor is now confined at the police headquarters, but the detectives decline (as they say, under instructions) to give his name. One of the women is supposed to be the mother of the murdered child.

Use Non-Explosive Oil

Sold by T. C. Jenkins, Checkered Front. Every dealer should have it.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Clarion *Jeffersonian* indorses Hon. William L. Corbett, of that county, as a candidate for the United States Senatorship.

Back-pay Speer is one of the special committee to go to Vicksburg to investigate the recent troubles there. It is probable that the prospective extra pay has had something to do with his accepting a position requiring an unearthing of the actions of his rebel friends.—*Altoona Radical.*

The Philadelphia correspondent of the Harrisburg *Patriot* says: "William B. Reed, who had to run away from Philadelphia for appropriating the money of orphan children intrusted to his care, writes the editorials in the New York *Tribune* attacking Mr. Wallace," the candidate for United States Senator.

General.

Mayor-elect Wickham, of New York, has appointed Colonel Benton N. Harrison as his private secretary. Colonel Harrison was the private secretary of Jeff Davis during the war.

Mayor Vance, of New York, has removed Myer Stern and James Bowen from the office of Commissioners of Charities and Correction, and Edward L. Donnelly and Townsend Cox are appointed in their stead. The Mayor's action has received the approval of Governor Dix. The reason for the removal was the leniency and privileges granted to William M. Tweed, a prisoner in charge of the Commissioners.

STATE NEWS.

Philadelphia has forty-one public libraries.

The Grangers of Columbia county have organized a fire insurance company.

The Masons of Meadville and vicinity had a reunion on Saturday evening.

Four new hotels are contemplated in Philadelphia, and one is being constructed.

The Moslem orebank, in Lehigh county, has been sold to E. & G. Brooks and the Leesport Iron Company, for $70,000.

The State convention of the Emerald Benefical Association will meet in Dilligent Hall, Philadelphia, on the 5th of January.

A three-year-old girl in Spring Boro, Crawford county, swallowed a tin whistle the other day, but appears to be no worse for the ware.

A Reading girl, fifteen years old, was sent by her mother to pay three months' rent, but spent the money for Christmas goods. The damsal is to be sent to the House of Refuge.

When a Scranton Democratic editor, a few days ago, read a Washington dispatch that "Yoshida Kiyonario, the new Japanese Minister, presented his credentials to the President yesterday," he grabbed a pen—this Scranton editor did—and wrote a fierce and denunciatory editorial on "The President and Present Taking." He said that the President of this great republic made himself very small in the eyes of the people in stooping to accept a present of credentials from Mr. Kiyonario. He thought "credentials" was a new kind of phaeton, or landau, or something that way.—*Norristown Herald.*

OHIO NEWS.

Farmers report the wheat crop looking well.

Over 16,000 hogs have been slaughtered in Toledo, this season.

A baby was born in the depot sitting-room at Newark on Thursday.

The use of the new Union Depot at Columbus will begin the 3d of January, and the old one be torn down.

Canton is trying to borrow $35,000 in order to make a good shoddy job in the construction of her water works.

A stock company of expert English coal miners have commenced opening a large bed of coal, near Louisville, Stark county.

The "immortal J. N." is not dead, by any means; and the Dayton *Journal*, which started the story, assumes the pressure and takes it all back.

At Dayton the canal remains open, and produce, grain and wood are moving from the North to Cincinnati and intermediate points. So open a winter has not been known for many years before.

Two veins of iron ore found on the farm of George Barnhouse, in Noble county, by Mr. Will Herdman, a geologist, is pronounced to be as rich ore as any in Ohio. One vein is three feet, and the other eight inches in thickness.

Jacob Vogleman, of Bellaire, an old man of perhaps eighty years, was last week arrested and fined $20 and costs, and sentenced to ten days' confinement in the city prison, for keeping a tippling house in violation of a city ordinance.

Mr. Markley, an old resident of Newark, was found dead in his bed on the morning of the 23d inst. He had retired the evening previous, apparently well, and is supposed to have died about eleven o'clock, probably of old age, as he was over eighty.

A Prison Romance.

A singular prison romance has just been disclosed in the Canadian penitentiary at Kingston, where Elizabeth Jones has for six years been confined for the murder of her cousin, sentence having been pronounced on her own confession. Her father was executed for the same crime, notwithstanding the declaration of the girl that she alone had committed the deed, and that he was guiltless—indeed knew nothing of the murder. She has now admitted —what has always been generally believed by the public, but by herself strenuously denied—that her father was the murderer, and that she had accused herself of his crime to shield him, and at his desire. She took no part in the crime, and was not aware of its commission till her father told her he had done it, and implored her to save him, a task which she devotedly attempted and persisted in after it was hopeless.

A FOREIGN inventor claims to have realized the long felt desideratum of a machine for the expeditious and thorough construction of earthworks. The apparatus consists of a strong frame, mounted on casters or wheels, for moving along the ground rapidly, and having an elevated platform hinged at one side, and held down at the other side upon powerful springs, on to which the earth is scraped up an ascending way, or otherwise delivered upon it. The earth is finally discharged in the direction of the place where it is to be employed by tripping the platform and allowing the spring to throw it up with sufficient force to project the earth effectively. A windlass is made use of to force the platform back for reloading, with ratchets and pawls for holding it. This machine is more particularly designed for levee building, and, it is evident, must prove very serviceable in building up banks of considerable height—saving much of the labor of the animals in moving themselves and the scrapes up and down the banks.

DR. PLAYFAIR, in his recent address before the Social Science Congress, in Glasgow, was bold enough to arraign the sanitary condition of the city in which he was speaking by the round assertion that "three thousand murders are committed annually in Glasgow." Having startled his hearers into an attentive mood, he proceeded to shrive them of intentional homicide, explaining his meaning to be that, since the death-rate in Glasgow is one-third greater than in London, that number of people die every year in the former city who should not die. Since this excess of deaths is due entirely to the defective municipal hygiene, he held that every man with a voice in the local jurisdiction, and who yet failed to insist upon better sanitary safeguards, was a passive accessory to the awful yearly slaughter by filth and stenches. Possibly, the accessories may take the hint—if it be but toward self-preservation.

THE following simple method for ventilating ordinary sleeping and dwelling rooms is recommended by Mr. Hinton in his "Physiology for Practical Use:" "A piece of wood, three inches high and exactly as high as the breadth of the window, is to be prepared. Let the sash be now raised, the slip of wood placed on the sill, and the sash drawn closely upon it. If the slip has been well fitted, there will be no draught in consequence of this displacement of the sash at the lower part; but the top of the lower sash will overlap the bottom of the upper one, and between the two bars perpendicular currents of air, not felt as draught, will enter and leave the room."

THE actual consumption of imported liquors in Canada during the year 1873, was 2,573,623 gallons, to which must be added 4,739,027 gallons of domestic spirits, mostly whisky, the total being 7,313,650 gallons. Of foreign ale, porter, etc., there were consumed 458,876 gallons, and of home-made liquors of the same class 10,975,160 gallons. The grand total of spirituous and malt liquors consumed in Canada in that year is thus shown to be 18,727,685 gallons, of which the money value is estimated at $31,564,703.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISE.

The Pennsylvania Company and the Hoosac Tunnel.

(From the North Adams (Mass.) Transcript.)

There is a report that Colonel Scott and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company have a plan to control the unfinished Massachusetts Central Railroad, secure the tunnel line, build fifty miles from North Adams via Hancock and Stephentown to Albany, thence over the Albany and Susquehanna to Binghamton, whence a line thirty miles from that town, following the old canal bed, which has been ceded by the State of New York, taps the Pennsylvania Central's branch to Elmira, at or near Athens, N. Y. To control the Massachusetts Central only $1,500,000 is necessary. Already three-fourths of the work is done on the ninety-two miles from Weston to Northampton, $2,500,000 having been expended. The above controlling sum is sufficient to lay the rails and put on the equipment. The branch from North Adams to Albany has been surveyed, and it will not cost over $40,000 a mile. The road from Binghamton is hardly more than laying the rails. There is a charter in existence to build a seven mile road from Weston, on the Fitchburg Road, to a point north of Waltham, thence across to Somerville, going into Boston over the Lowell Road.

The Transit of Venus.

(From the Boston Advertiser.)

The English press received reports from a very large number of expeditions to observe the transit of Venus besides those from which we had information. The fortune of the parties was various, but on the whole favorable. Some facts reported by astronomers are intensely interesting to those who have studied the progress of modern astronomy. For example, Dr. Janssen, who occupied a station in Japan, telegraphed that Venus was seen over the sun's corona before contact with his disc. The existence of this corona as a solar atmosphere or envelope is one of the modern discoveries, and the spectroscope has played an important part in determining its character. Now for the first time a planet has been seen projected against this corona. The facts and theories of Dr. Janssen will be awaited with absorbing interest. The question whether there would be a "black drop"—that is, whether the disc of Venus would appear to be elongated toward the edge of the sun's disc just at the moment of interior contact—was much discussed before the transit. If the surface of a pan of water be barely touched with the finger's end, and the finger be then raised slightly above the surface, every one knows that there will still be a connecting drop. The black drop of astronomers is a very similar phenomenon. Several of the dispatches from observers report that no black drop was seen, and we do not find that any one reports that it was seen. This is as good as absolute proof that the phenomenon was only an optical illusion, which better instruments and more careful observation have enabled observers to correct. The only other point that we can notice at this time is that the French astronomers have relied mainly upon daguerreotype plates rather than upon photographs on glass, and strangely enough, nearly all the astronomers are now saying that the silver plate is by far the more accurate. It is a pity that they had not come to that conclusion sooner.

Look Out for Dealers

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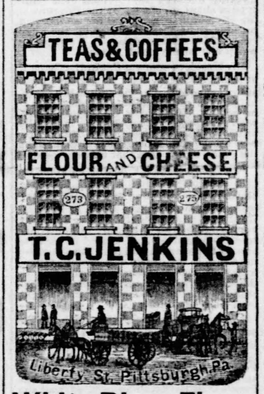

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WANTED.

WANTED—EVERY SPORTSMAN—To call or send for a price list of Rifles, Shot Guns, Revolvers, Ammunition, &c. Address J. H. JOHNSTON, Agent Western Gun Works, 3 Liberty street, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—ROOM WITH POWER—First and second or second and third story Rooms, with steam power, for manufacturing purposes. Address stating location, size and rent, Pacific Box 939, City.

WANTED—MODELS — INVENTORS — and others wanting Patent Office Models or Experimental Models of Iron, Wood or Brass to call at Keystone Pattern and Model Works of J. F. MILLER & CO., 68 Water street and 80 First avenue.

WANTED — PROPOSALS — FOR Building two three-story Brick Dwelling Houses, parties bidding to take two Building Lots on Liberty, second Ward as part pay on contract for the buildings. For further particulars apply to G. W. RANKIN, Real Estate Agent, 104 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

PERSONAL.

PERSONAL—WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED a supply of large and heavy Lace Leather of Page's Patent, the best in the city. HARTLEY, McKEE & CO., corner Fourth avenue and Smithfield street.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—700 POUNDS MINION TYPE, nearly new. Will be sold at a bargain. Apply at this office.

FOR SALE—OAK TANNED LEATHER Belting and No. 1 "City Finish" Harness Leather at THORP & DUNN'S, 84 Market street.

FOR SALE—PLANING MILL MACHINERY—Priced to suit the times. Every Machine guaranteed. Send for Descriptive Circular and price list. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and Second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand. JAMES HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P., V. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—THREE NEW DOUBLE-FLUE Boilers, 20x36; twelve Portable Boilers, from 12 to 20 horse power; Engines from 4 to 80 horse power; Shafting, Pulleys, Hangers, &c. ANDERSON, MAXWELL & PORTER, 40 Park Way, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—PATENT REPORTS—A set of 61 Volumes, containing a complete list of Patents from the organization of the Government in 1790 to July 1, 1874. Price, $120. If preferred, $20 may be sent with the order, and the balance collected when the books are received by express. C. O. D. Address G. E. N., this office.

FOR SALE — FORTY SUPERIOR Second-hand Boilers, in good order, ranging from 30 inches to 84 inches in diameter, and Small-to 40 feet long; double-faced and cylinder. County Inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Point Boiler Works, No. 13 Water street. WATSON & MUNROE.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE FOR good city or country property—A number of valuable and well-located Lots near South Chicago, and in close proximity to the Calumet River and different lines of Railroad. These Lots are dry. The Calumet region is destined to be at an early day the manufacturing and commercial point of Chicago. For particulars apply to E. C. KEYS, 96 Fourth avenue, or FLAGG, DURANT & CO., 104 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—A SPLENDID FARM OF 128 Acres, two miles of Baden Station, Beaver county; 20 Acres in fine Timber; new Frame House of 6 Rooms; large new Barn; first class Orchard; 300 trees; nearly level; suits for Dairy Stock or Grain; well watered; Coal under it. Price $125 per Acre. We have some smaller Tracts for sale: 136 Acres in Indiana county, price $6,000, and a 250 Acre Farm in Ohio, price $15,000, for exchange. STEVENSON & WITTMUS'S Farm Agency, 104 Penn street, Pittsburgh, near St. Clair Hotel.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE MONONGAHELA WATER COMPANY—A Quarterly Dividend of THREE PER CENT., on the Capital Stock of this Company, will be paid on or after January 1st, 1875.

HENRY STAMM, Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, December 28, 1874.

FREEHOLD BANK AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION—DIVIDEND NOTICE—The Directors of this Bank have declared a Dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT. out of the profits of the last six months, payable on and after January 1st, free of tax.

THOMAS STEEL, Secretary and Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, December 29, 1874.

ELECTION NOTICES.

SAFE DEPOSIT COM

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1874.

THE New York *Herald* expects a transformation in city affairs as soon as Governor TILDEN is inducted into office. Its hope is vain. The Governor-elect is anything but a courageous man, never having had blood enough in him to be in love with anything but the Democratic party.

IT IS intimated by the Marquette *Mining Journal* that Eastern capitalists will build works on Lake Superior next summer, for the manufacture of steel rails, and the same paper adds that the establishment of car-wheel works only depends upon a revival of the general business interests of the country.

PERHAPS the most infallible sign that the Democracy are going to sweep down on the national capital next winter like a swarm of grasshoppers on a Western cornfield, is the arrival in Washington of the advance guard of the main column—MORRISEY and CHAMBERLAIN—the renowned Democratic chieftains, and teachers of the sublime mysteries of faro.

STATE Senator GRAHAM, of Virginia, the recusant Democratic witness in the STOWELL cadet-selling business, has come to the conclusion that discretion is the better part of valor, and has expressed his willingness to appear before the House Naval Committee whenever it wants him. Sensible; but the echo of his loud States' rights blast of defiance has a strangely dying fall.

NOT the least among the business signs of the times is the fact that railroad bonds are in comparatively good demand, and that prices, especially of the older issues, are well maintained. After the disbursement of the January dividends, when a large amount of surplus capital will be thrown on the market, it is believed that investors will more largely seek this class of securities.

THE editor of the Springfield *Republican* is very much distressed. He is in Washington, writing letters to his paper, and he is greatly mortified to find that the Democrats do not know how to profit by their late victory, and that the Republicans do know how to benefit by their defeat. The editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, who is likewise at Washington, is also unhappy from the same cause.

PEOPLE who remember the notorious Democratic frauds in Plaquemine, Louisiana, in the Presidential campaign of that year, by which HENRY CLAY was cheated out of his election, will be apt to listen with a great deal of incredulity to the partisan representations of the White Leaguers of that State concerning the course of the two parties at the late election. Whenever, yet, did the leper change his spots?

THERE is a certain section of the Republican press which greedily snaps at every item of allegation of fraud sent North by the White League cut-throats of Louisiana, as being unquestioned and unquestionable, and daily makes these items of false intelligence the basis of the most unjust attacks upon the Republicans of Louisiana. The time was when no Republican newspaper would believe one word these red-handed murderers could utter; and it seems passing strange that the men who participated in or who justified the Coushatta massacre, should now, for one moment, be deemed worthy of belief.

DAN. VOORHEES, who is blatherskiting around in Indiana, trying to get himself elected United States Senator, says that "Democracy signifies the rule of the people, and tolerates exclusive privileges to none. It recognizes no high castes, and no low castes. Such distinctions are an abomination in its sight." If he really believes this, let him attest his sincerity by volunteering to defend the cause of the poor and lowly of his State against the late "abominable" decision of its Democratic Supreme Court, slamming the doors of the public schools in the faces of colored children—which will presently come before the United States Supreme Court for review. It is the opportunity of a life-time.

THE outlook in England for the iron interests of that country after the New Year, is considered by its trade journals to be a hopeful one, and some of the Sheffield iron-masters go so far as to predict a "great revival." Prices are already on the advance. A quantity that was sold by auction there on the 10th instant, realized fully five dollars per ton more than most merchants and manufacturers anticipated. Norwegian and Swedish iron of next year's make, to be delivered at Sheffield next summer, is also being quoted at fully ten dollars a ton dearer than it could be obtained a few months since. The iron industries of our own country will, it is to be hoped, catch the influence of this newly awakening activity, in due season.

MOST of the newspapers jump to the conclusion, in discussing the Pacific Mail subsidy investigation, that because Mr. R. B. IRWIN was intrusted with $750,000 by the Pacific Mail Company, he must have used it in bribing members of Congress, but we do not see anything in the developments so far made to justify that conclusion. Not a single item of testimony has yet been adduced to show that any of the money was used in that way. Mr. IRWIN acknowledges receiving the money, but declares that he did not bribe with it. Is it not more than probable that he and STOCKWELL used it in stock speculations than that they used it in buying Congressmen? Considering the character of the two men, this seems the most likely thing of the two.

DURING the late war, on the invitation of the loyal congregations of Greenville and Johnson City, Tennessee, the Methodist Episcopal Church assumed possession of the church property of the Southern Methodists at those points and has ever since held control of it, without subsequently making any terms with the trustees or with the Southern General Conference. The Supreme Court of Tennessee, however, has just decided that the title of the Southern trustees, under the provisions of the plan of separation adopted in 1844, is valid, and that the possession of the Church North is contrary to law. It appears to us that a decision in favor of the latter Church would have been a misfortune rather than a benefit, since the validity of its own trust deed is of much greater intrinsic importance than a few churches more or less.

FROM the official annual statement of the native mining products of Great Britain for last year, which has just been published, it appears that the decrease in the amount of pure copper obtained was 463 tons, or eight per cent. Quite a striking decrease took place in lead, the falling off being no less than 6,220 tons, or upward of ten per cent.; but the most remarkable falling off of all was in spelter, which declined 720 tons, or about fourteen per cent. The total value of the products of these three metals for that period amounted to £1,886,296. Our own production of the same metals during the same period reached an aggregate valuation, according to the English monetary standard, of £2,239,061, or considerably upward of two million dollars more than the amount produced in England. This is a promising fact. Everywhere except with us there is a decreased yield of these metals, while our own progress in their production is steady add constant. The day ought not to be far distant when we shall be exporters of lead and spelter, as well as of copper.

IN the death of GERRIT SMITH, which event occurred suddenly in New York city, yesterday, while he was on a holiday visit to friends, the country suffers the loss of a great and good man. He was born in Utica, New York, (then a mere frontier village,) in 1797, and was consequently in his seventy-eighth year when he died. His father, PETER SMITH, was a business partner of JOHN JACOB ASTOR, and his shrewd Indian trading enterprises brought him considerable wealth, a large portion of it in the shape of extensive tracts of land, whose gradual appreciation in value laid the foundation of the handsome heritage he bequeathed to his descendants. GERRIT SMITH was a born philanthropist. His intellectual gifts were of the noblest quality; he had that greatness of mind which intuitively perceives great moral truths and great moral laws, and he had, besides, that high courage which enabled him to master and apply them for the best use and progress of humanity. He not only saw and knew justice, but he did it and lived it, striving down to the end of his life to join all classes and conditions of mankind more truly and tenderly one to another. Hence he was of structural necessity an abolitionist. LUNDY, LOVEJOY, GARRISON, BIBNEY, HALE and others of the old Liberty Guard, found in him a valued friend and coadjutor, and he was one of the staunchest backers, so far as the rendering of moral sympathy and material aid were concerned, whom old JOHN BROWN ever had. In behalf of every cause which appealed to his conscience he exhibited a princely generosity. His gifts to educational institutions, his contributions for the promotion of the temperance cause, and his donations to non-sectarian religious, benevolent and reformatory societies, must, in the aggregate, have reached an enormous sum. He never lost the enthusiasm of his early interest in the welfare of the black race, and his latest public utterance was a most urgent and eloquent appeal to the Republican party to pass the Civil Rights bill during the present session of Congress. The brave old Apostle of Humanity has gone down with his harness on, tried and true to the last.

THE TWO EXTREMES.

On the 12th of November a party consisting of some forty persons, men, women and children, left the town of Bunzlau in Silesia for Palestine. Though they went by railway to Hamburg, where they expected to take ship, they were not ordinary tourists, but pilgrims of a very peculiar class. They go to the Holy Land with the purpose and hope of spending their days there. Inquirers were unable to obtain from members of the band any very definite or clear information relative to the motives of their emigration. From few and imperfectly expressed sentences dropped by them it should seem that they believe the world to be near its end, and that the prospect of that catastrophe has somewhat to do with their movement. Two women, one of whom is named HERMINE SCHUL, and professes to be a prophetess, are the instigators of the pilgrimage. The sect to which the pilgrims belong is said to have a good many adherents in the city of Hainau and the surrounding villages. In answer to questions as to how they expect to live in Palestine, the pilgrims said, "The Lord will provide," and the warnings of the local press have had no weight against the influence of the prophetess.

These stirrings of enthusiasm are interesting for more than one reason. Just a hundred years ago, and during some years before and after, movements of the same kind were common among the German peasantry, especially in Southern Germany. Indeed, they were not wholly confined to the peasantry, some citizens of property and intelligence taking part in them. Some of the pious colonies to which religious fervor then gave rise journeyed westward, seeing the star of promise in the setting sun; others, and much the larger number, felt irresistibly drawn toward the East. Some of the emigrant bands reached points far toward the rising sun, where they formed settlements still in existence, while others of them, in the attempt to fulfill their pilgrimage, became involved in much misery, from which their governments interposed to rescue them. Germans, by the way, are not the only people who have been fascinated by the idea of forming a settlement in Palestine. Even American working people, a few years ago, made an attempt of the kind which, we believe, came to naught.

Such movements inspired by faith are also interesting as illustrations of one of the spiritual extremes which mark the times. Ages of scepticism have usually been distinguished by the extraordinary development of credulity. The two opposites go together; the ordinary current of the world's thinking having been disturbed, men run into wild unbelief or wild belief according to constitutional predisposition, education, circumstances, etc. It is only very few who can maintain an attitude of pure negation or prevalent indifference toward the unseen and the Great Hereafter, and when their traditional beliefs on those subjects have been effaced, most men may fall a prey to any delusion which seems likely to fill the void of which they are painfully conscious. We are reminded that, in the opinion of a correspondent, the COMMERCIAL, a few days ago, seemed to concede rather too much in favor of the diffusion of spiritualism at the present time. It may be so. We have never claimed or pretended to have any positive data on the subject; we merely gave the impression received from various indications which, we have no time to specify. In connection with the topic we may mention that Elder EVANS, of the Shaker Society, a man of intelligence and character, in a leading paper of New York city makes not only the Emperor of Russia but the late President LINCOLN and Secretary STANTON all avowed believers in spiritualism. As to LINCOLN and STANTON, Elder EVANS seems to speak from his own personal knowledge, and as to the Czar, he cites the Empress as stating in the presence of many witnesses that the Czar had issued his ukase freeing the serfs at the command of a spirit, through HOME, the famous medium. The latter statement seems not incredible when one remembers how much ALEXANDER the First was influenced by Madame CRUDENER, quite as much a charlatan as HOME. With reference to LINCOLN and STANTON, it is possible that they may have confessed a degree of interest and bewilderment touching the subject, the mental attitude which in feebler intellects is readily succeeded by belief.

IN the imperial German Parliament a prominent Deputy lately made a very significant little statement, which was listened to with lively interest by the members, and which seems not without interest for the citizens of the American republic. The following was the occasion of the statement alluded to: BISMARCK having asserted that the Pope threatens States with revolution, and that an instance of such menace being employed had come within the direct knowledge of a German diplomatist, a well-known Deputy disputed the charge and suggested that, as to the particular example referred to, the Chancellor had been misinformed. Then Herr VON BARNBUELER took the floor. He is a tall slender man, with very expressive features and a snow white beard. He spoke in low tones, having not yet wholly recovered from an attack of throat illness, and the members leaving their seats gathered around to hear him. Amidst silence so deep that a pin might be heard to fall, says the German report, BARNBUELER made his statement. He had been Minister of Wuertemberg at a time when perfect peace prevailed between Church and State; when the government in Stuttgart and the Catholic Bishop in Rottenburg were on the most satisfactory terms. While this perfect understanding existed between the two powers, a formal difference with Rome arose concerning the appointment of a coadjutor for the Bishop of Rottenburg. The Wuertemberg Ambassador at Munich was commissioned by BARNBUELER to negotiate with Mgr. VELA, Papal Nuncio at the same court, for the removal of the difficulty which had occurred. This negotiation took place, and, in the course of it, the Papal Nuncio declared, that, *except in the American Union and Belgium*, the Pope is not sufficiently respected by governments; "under such circumstances," said the Nuncio, "toward those governments there is left us no other expedient or remedy but revolution, and of this remedy we shall make use." Whether the Nuncio added BARNBUELER, was authorized by the Pope to utter this threat, that, indeed, I do not know, but he seems to have conducted the transaction according to the mind of the power which commissioned him, for shortly afterward he was transferred as Nuncio to Paris as to a position much more important than the one he had occupied at Munich.

While Herr BARNBUELER was making this statement he was often interrupted by the majority with cries of "hear," and at the conclusion he was rewarded with a vivacious bravo. The clericals, usually so tumultuous with their interruptions and exclamations, kept silent under the weight of the fact; even the loquacious gentleman who by his contradiction of the Chancellor had called forth the statement, had not a word to say.

BISHOP MCQUAIDE, of Rochester, New York, in a lecture recently delivered, attacked our Common School system bitterly, and was profuse in his predictions of what the Catholics would do with it when they got the power. He admitted that, for the present, they could not control it; but the time was coming when they would have votes enough to get possession of it. He said:

"Perhaps you do not understand what I mean when I talk about *votes* and *ballot boxes*. Well, I have tried to use plain language, but I will try to be plainer, if possible. I mean this: That we shall go on talking about the matter, agitating, enlightening the people as much as we can, *and when the time comes we shall go to the ballot boxes and settle this question there in our own favor, as in the past it has been settled against us. We shall go there with our numbers of the people in the land, who mean to live strong, multiply rapidly upon the soil, increasing everywhere—the Catholics in our numbers with power, not to do to others as has been done to us, but &c., &c.*

* * * "And so when our time comes, when we get the majority, we are not going to establish a system that will be all for Catholics, and tell the others if they don't like it they can go about their business; but we will fix a system that will be just and fair, and that will secure for all classes where even the poor unfortunate infidel and Jew, and every class of the community will have an equal and fair deal. [Applause.] We are not going to propose to do it now. We will not be such fools as to do that. We have not got the majority yet. In the meantime we will be talking. They who have to do this work are the men—the laity, whose members and votes count."

This is plain and explicit, and there can be no excuse for misunderstanding it. The programme is distinctly marked out; and recent events in New York would seem to indicate that the laity to whom the Bishop refers, think the time has already come for putting it in operation. The Democratic members of the Legislature of that State have concluded to elect JEREMIAH MCGUIRE to be Speaker of the House, and FRANCIS KERNAN to be United States Senator. Both of these gentlemen are heartily in sympathy with Bishop MCQUAIDE; and the fact that they are able to compass their election to such important places must encourage the Rochester prelate to conclude that the time for capturing the common schools must be near at hand.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

O, sweet is longing, sweet is trust:
The royal wish speeds brave endeavor,
Covet the best gifts! for we must:
By this path we ascend forever.

Robert Dale Owen now thinks he was mistaken a shade.

They buy cattle in Oregon for two and a half cents a pound.

Philadelphia is to be brought within an hour and a half of New York by rail.

The financial pressure is loosening. Even the days are not so "short" as they were.

Isn't it singular that men who will not believe in God end by believing in ghosts?

Green peas grown in the open air have made their appearance in the Savannah market.

There has been a falling off in the export trade of Boston, this year as compared with last, of $3,382,044.

This week is the physician's golden harvest-time. The dinners of Christmastide are his best allies.

That man Irwin seems to be almost as nimble a liar, according to his lights, as was Ananias himself.

A Philadelphia paper gravely reports that "a boy jockey in California was lately discovered to be a girl."

All the European Powers have accepted an invitation to the forthcoming International Code conference.

Canada's tobacco bill for 1873, including smoking and chewing tobacco, cigars, pipes and snuff, foots up $8,421,085.

Grinding their way to prosperity. The milling capacity of Minnesota is estimated at about a thousand run of stone.

Can the nation stand it? Germany's imports for the last twelve months exceed the exports by 500,000,000 thalers.

Another convention of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Illinois will be held in Chicago, February 3, to elect a bishop.

A convention of the Railroad Commissioners for Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois is to be held in Springfield, Illinois, to-day.

Shooting burglars "on the spot" is declared by as competent legal authority as Charles O'Conor to be just and beneficial.

A correspondent wants to know what kind of paper is best to write on for a newspaper. Foolscap, for folks like himself.

Chicago is rapidly becoming an "art center" as well as a "grain center," "hog-center," faro center and head center generally.

Oystersare now so scarce in England that a host's hospitality is measured by the number he allows the cook to serve in the soup.

It was a Merry Christmas; now let us take fresh heart of courage from it, and look confidently forward to a happy New Year.

Foreigners who have of late been traveling in China speak highly of increased civility and growing confidence on the part of the people.

Richmond, Va., has abolished her detective force, and Cincinnati is about to do the same thing. When will Pittsburgh follow suit?

Castle Garden is being re-floored, and the New York *Herald* has to employ home talent. These are results of the decline of immigration.

A large archipelago of islands has been discovered by an English vessel in the neighborhood of New Guinea, with two great mountains on them.

San Francisco has been overtaken by another gold and silver mining craze, and the speculative feeling is running higher and wider than for many years.

In New York bookkeepers and clerks are almost as plentiful as the flags of the sidewalk. They can be hired by the hundred for a mere pittance of pay.

All the recognized foreign governments of the world have signified their intention to be represented at the Philadelphia Centennial. It will be a grand success.

New Zealand having decided to send a Commission to the Centennial, the witty New York *Advertiser* trusts that the work will go on with a New zeal-and energy.

The Illinois Legislature has been evading the clause in the reformed constitution which forbids special legislation, and some of the papers are making a row about it.

A growing trade. The total imports from China and Japan this year amount to $8,187,483, against $9,385,573 last year. The exports were $2,118,184, against $1,930,125 last year.

The Louisville *Ledger*, which is run with a forty-idiot power, peremptorily insists that all of Harper's publications should be rigidly excluded from every Southern household.

O, come now; we can't swallow this. A Harrisburg paper says that "when a gentleman and lady are walking upon the street the lady should walk *inside* of the gentleman."

Snobbery. An English paper publishes a very humble apology for having, in one of its reports, described a speaker at a public meeting as a shoemaker, instead of a shoe manufacturer.

The grangers congratulate themselves on the organization of 409 new subordinate granges during the present month, making the total number 621,981. The number of members is 1,648,571.

At Monte Vista, in Los Angeles county, Cal., the apples trees are fragrant with their white and pink bloom. So says the last paper received from that delightful semi-tropical region.

An attempt at burglary at St. Johnsville, New York, on Christmas eve, resulted in the killing of one of the thieves. A few more examples of this kind, and burglary will become rare.

There is a sugar refinery in St. Louis which, during this year, has consumed sixty-three millions of pounds of raw sugar. It also sold refined sugar during the same time to the value of $5,900,000.

It is now believed that the simoons which sometimes occur in the western half of the Mississippi Valley have their origin in South America, and are caused by the heated air of the great sandy plains.

Chicago has been a fruitful field for church disturbances, and, if her reputation is not maintained in that particular, it will not be for the reason that material is lacking. Another rumpus is now in full blast.

Tweedledum and tweedledee. The Michigan spiritualists have rescinded their former resolution indorsing free love, leaving the question to "the dictates of each man and woman's own conscience."

Very singular rumbling or detonating sounds have been repeatedly heard of late in the vicinity of Stone Mountain, Georgia. We ourselves noticed a similar phenomenon in that region some ten or eleven years ago.

The original discovery of Sharon's great mine was made in 1859, when the region was known as "Washoe." Since then, nearly two hundred millions' worth of silver and gold have been drawn from the lode.

The Washington *Capital* says "great financiers" generally means men who know nothing about finance. Don Piatt, the editor, is generally understood to have written Senator Jones' "great" hard money speech.

Maine's shipbuilding record for the year now closing is very encouraging. Two hundred and ninety-one vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 132,300 tons, have been built, while, last year, the number was only 235, with a corresponding tonnage.

THE WOOL INTEREST.

Protest of the National Wool Growers' Association Against the Ratification of the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada.

The National Wool Growers' Association, through its Executive Committee, *protests* against the ratification of any treaty between our country and the Dominion of Canada, which shall in any way abridge the powers of Congress to regulate and alter our tariff laws as may from time to time appear to be conducive to our national interests.

The Father of our Country, in his farewell address to his fellow citizens in 1796, said:—

"The great rule of conduct for us, in regard to foreign nations, is, in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible." * * * "Harmony, and a liberal intercourse with all nations, are recommended by policy, humanity and interest. But even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand, neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences." * * * "Establishing rules of intercourse with powers so disposed, the best that *present* circumstances will permit, but *temporary*, and liable to be, from time to time, abandoned or varied, as experience and circumstances shall dictate; constantly keeping in view, that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another." * * * "There can be no greater error than to expect or calculate upon real favors from nation to nation."

This is the last advice given by General Washington to his country, and holds the important place in the well known State paper with which he closed his official career.

The treaty now before the Senate of the United States, is a measure entirely in conflict with this advice, and by its terms binds the country for twenty-one years, and three years after that period has expired, which is provided for notice—making in all twenty-four years—in bonds that cannot be broken, except by war between the parties.

No treaty can be drawn, even by the wisest statesman that ever lived, that would be safe for such a growing, changing and progressive nation as ours, to accept as unchangeable for twenty-four years. There is no safety in thus binding the men, who, coming after us, will be charged with the governing, and supplying the means of defraying the expenses of so great a nation in peace, and in the wars that all nations are sometimes forced to maintain.

But of this treaty it cannot be said that it is wise in its provisions for even the present time. Its ratification and enforcement would be greatly injurious to many branches of our national industries, and it would certainly materially lessen our production of wool.

Canada wool, is, by the terms of the treaty, to be admitted to our country free of all duty. Wool grown all over the world would, under such a treaty, be smuggled through Canada in immense quantities. The wools produced in England and Ireland are so like those produced in Canada that even an expert could not detect them.

The treaty provides that woolen rags shall come to us, free of duty, thus furnishing unlimited material for shoddy goods. Satinets of wool and cotton, and tweeds of wool solely, are free.

Tweeds, by Canada custom, embrace under one general name fancy cassimeres and a variety of styles of woolen goods. Under this general term. English cassimeres would be smuggled in boundless quantities. Felting to cover boilers is also free. Under these various divisions of material, and, manufactured woolen goods, not only the growing of wool, but the manufacturing, would so suffer as to virtually destroy both, as great branches of national industry.

The effect of the treaty would be to establish free trade in wool and woolen goods, not only between the Dominion of Canada, but between England and the United States.

Using round numbers, the General Government does now collect every year about ($300,000,000) three hundred millions of dollars—one-third from internal taxes and two-thirds from tariff duties. This immense sum of money has to be raised from our industry, and the people of Canada now contribute about sixty millions of dollars in gold, paid for duties. The Treaty would surrender this sum and add it to our overweighted industry, and make Canada the thoroughfare for smuggling for all of the world. Every branch of industry in Canada would be stimulated at our expense. The lower price of labor in Canada, due to the fact that labor there is not taxed as it is here, to pay a great national debt, would give that country such advantages in producing and manufacturing that it could undersell us in our own markets.

To quote from the late address of Mr. Speaker Blaine to his constituents: The treaty admits "to free registry by us, of Canadian vessels and the full enjoyment of our coasting and lake trade. Thus the shipbuilding and commercial interests of the United States, reviving so prosperously of late, and just recovering from the terrible blows by British built cruisers during the war, are again to be struck down by giving advantages hitherto undreamed of to the ships of the very power that inflicted the previous injury."

By the words of the treaty, vessels of all kinds built in Canada may be registered in the United States as United States vessels. Under this clause all the iron that may be required for a first-class sea-going steamer may be sent from any country to Canada, and there merely put together, so as to be Canada built, and then, by a stroke of the pen of the proper officer, become a United States ship.

How all of these provisions of the treaty will inure to the benefit of the Dominion, is set forth in a letter of a distinguished member of the Parliament of that country, the Honorable Mackenzie Bowell, in the Toronto *Globe*. "The best and greatest commercial blessing that Heaven could send, I mean as $6 on a cow, $25 on a horse, $2 on a hog, 25 cents on a turkey, 12 cents on a chicken, $2 on a ton of hay, 15 cents on barley and 25 cents on wheat. It means the opening of the largest and best shipbuilding business that Canada ever saw, and the resurrection of old Quebec. It means building schooners and barges at every port on the coast. It means employment good wages for ships and sailors; the highest price for everything the (Dominion) farmer sells, and the lowest price for all of the goods he buys."

This is the estimate of the value, to his country, of this treaty, of one of the ablest of the statesmen of the Dominion.

What does the Dominion give us for all these benefits? Many things that we do not want. Among them a promise to so improve the St. Lawrence river as to divert trade from our own canals and railroads, and lessen by so much the export trade from our own cities, on the shores of the Atlantic ocean.

The mutual right to fish in the waters of the sea on the coasts of the respective parties, is already secured in the same words by the treaty made at Washington, May 8th, 1871, and the supposed advantages given us in that treaty, and which we were to pay for, as might be determined by a joint commission of the two nations; such payment by this proposed reciprocity treaty is relinquished. Thus we are released from the payment of the claim that the British government has already made, under said Treaty of Washington, of a sum of almost exactly the same amount that was awarded us for our injuries suffered from British vessels carrying the rebel flag during the rebellion. If, as a matter of fact, the advantage to us, as a nursery of seamen, of fishing along the British American coasts is equal to a value of fifteen millions of dollars, then certainly the whole of our nation, and not a part of its local industry, should make that payment, and we object to having our rights, and the general well-being of the whole nation, thus bartered away. We cannot sacrifice our own great interests to secure the very limited markets of the Dominion for the few unimportant articles that we might export to them, which would be really productions of our own country, nor for the unimportant ends of having canals made in Canada, and the exemption from payment for the right to fish in Canada seas.

And finally, we insist, with full confidence in the truth of our position, that every real gain that is enumerated as secured to us by the proposed treaty, is either now ours by treaty, or is freely granted, as the result of policy by the Canadian authorities, and that there is no necessity of a treaty to cause the Canadians to allow our vessels, in time of peace, to pass from lake to lake, through their canals, upon the payment of tolls, for without the tolls from our vessels such canals would be of but little value, and that ordinary legislation is entirely adequate to determine, and from time to time change any special relations with the people of the Dominion, that grow out of the fact of the two countries being so intimately connected, by reason of their joining each other by a long line of boundary.

The industries of our country are so intimately connected, that no one great, leading branch can be struck down without serious loss to all others. We therefore call upon the men engaged in making lumber, the men engaged in making salt; the men engaged in building ships and navigating them; the men engaged in farming; the men engaged in manufacturing in short, we call upon all men who help pay our heavy taxes, and who are suffering from our vicious financial policy, and who intend to insist upon sustaining the national honor by the payment of our debts—upon all who are opposed to opening a wide door for the free entrance of smugglers, and binding ourselves and our children in bonds that can only be loosed for a period of twenty-four years, except by war or the consent of our commercial rival, to join us in making earnest protest, before it is too late, against ratification of this measure most injurious to the vital interests of our whole country.

HENRY S. RANDALL,
President National Wool Growers Association.
December 1, 1874.

THERE are now open in India 5,872 miles of railway, which have cost about £97,000,000, giving an average expenditure of £16,536 a mile. Of this length 727 miles are laid with double line, and 5,727 miles on the five feet six inch gauge. A further extent of 1,850 miles is now in course of execution, of which 817 miles will be on the five feet six inch, and 1,033 on the metric gauge. It has lately been decided that the Indus Valley line shall be constructed on the five feet six inch, instead of the narrow gauge. During the last year 312 miles of additional line was opened.

(From the Inter-Ocean.)

COLORED SCHOOLS IN INDIANA.

On the ground that the laws of Indiana require that colored children shall be educated in separate schools, the blacks in the mixed schools in Brazil, that State, were, by order of the School Supervisors, expelled a few days since. It is said that the little children begged to remain, and cried piteously when they found the order was imperative. One teacher, Miss Jennie Worthington, could not amass sufficient cruelty to dismiss those in her department, and sought one of the officers, who tried to explain the matter, and then forbade their return.

Dey's Turned Us Chil'n Out.

BY JERE DE BROWN.

I'se brought home all my books to-day,
An' so hab Cæsar an' Gus,
Dey'll hab to go back to de chist, I 'spec,
For dey's no more use to us.
It isn't vocation, nudder, pap,
Dat ain't what dis is about;
We can't go back to de white school now,
Dey's turned us chil'n out.

Whateber we'se done I hasn't heard,
We isn't no blacker, sho',
Dan what we was when we went fus',
A year ago, or mo'.
We always went dar 'spectable,
An' tried to act our best:—
But den we'se *black*, pap, dar's de rub;
And so we gets no rest.

Dar wa'n't no happier gal dan me,
In dat whole school, 'fore noon:
'Cuse I was larnin to read so fas'
An' 'ginnin to write so soon.
Why, sah, Miss Jennie done tole me twice—
An' what *she* says she mean—
Dat I'se de likeliest gal aroun',
Consid'n I'se jes' sixteen.

But when we sang that rousin' song,
"Shout, all ye freemen, shout,"
De teacher 'sclled as order, sah,
To turn us chil'n out.
But she jes' 'fused to be so mean,
An' said we needn,t stir.
So den de Boa'd deyse come in
An' tole us blacks to clar.

Dey found' dey'd been a doin' wrong
To edycate de blacks
Along mid *human* chil'n, sah,
Aldo we pays a tax.
Dey said the law says *sep'rate* schools
Mus' be muntained for us;
But as dey hain't pervided dem,
Den why fore all dis fuss?

Dey didn't gib us time to pack,
But druv us out like sheep;
An' all the chil'n—black and white—
Commenced to wail and weep.
We hung around the school-room door,
An' begged an' cried to stay,
But de Boa'd run out an' shook dar sticks
And made us run away.

I wonder if dat book up dar—
De best among de selen—
Could tell ef any 'stinction's made
'Tween white an' black in Heaben.
I know I'se heered Miss Jennie read
Dat God is no suspec'—
"Respecter of pussons"—dat's it, pap,
Or somfin to dat effect.

So, pap, dey's 'prived us ob de right
To learn to read and write,
An' when dat Boa'd builds sep'ate schools
You'll see dis darkey white.
Derefore I'se jus' brought home my books,
An' so hab Cæsar an' Gus,
An' dey'll hab to lay in de chist, I 'spec',
For dey's no more use to us.

PERSONAL.

And now the New York *Times* denounces the statement as to discord in Frank Moulton's family as "a most unfounded and infamous falsehood."

Under the head of "Promiscuous," an exchange states there are two widows, aged respectively fourteen and fifteen, in Atlanta, Ga. We should think so, very.

The man who introduced the use of the term "carpet-bagger" for northern adventurers at the South has just died. His name was William Parr, and he lived at Suffolk, Va.

The American children's gift to the beloved [story-teller, Hans Christian Andersen, was a Christmas gift, for over $200 of it went over the water in the shape of a telegraphic draft, Wednesday evening, and the rest of it is going over in the shape of a handsome edition of "Picturesque America."

The Chicago *Tribune* protests against General Sheridan's removal to New Orleans. It says: "There really is a great field of usefulness here for General Sheridan, and he is improving it pretty well. The field is the field of gallantry, and the service is heroic devotion to the lofty ethics of the ball room."

Here is the beginning of a feud, which may require endless New England dinners to compose. Vice President Allen, of the Rhode Island Historical Society, at a late meeting declared his opinion that "the type of character shown by the Pilgrims of the Plymouth colony was far nobler and broader than that exhibited by the Puritans of Massachusetts Bay." We guess he was pretty nearly right, though.

Mr. Neagle, quondam Controller General of South Carolina, used to get favors out of Governor Moses by the simple but effectual process of threatening to shoot him if he said no. He tried it on, the other day, with Governor Chamberlain, and was promptly jailed for his pains. Mr. Neagle is at present under a $10,000 bond to keep the peace, and wishes that he were dead.

The spiritualists are having bad luck on both sides of the Atlantic. The Katie King phenomenon was first introduced at the seances of Miss Florence Cook, in London. Until now the spiritualists have stood by her as an honest medium; but now her credit is ruined too. A wicked unbeliever named Hipp caught and held Miss Cook by the hand, in the course of a manifestation, which, it was represented, was going on through spiritual agencies alone. He has exposed the fraud in the papers—caught her on the hip, in fact.

A good story in connection with the Papal dogmas is just revived. When Bishop Burnet was at Rome he met Christina, Queen of Sweden, who, though born a Protestant, had become a Roman Catholic, and asked her what she thought of the Pope's infallibility. She replied that she did not know much about his infallibility, but that she had a firm faith in the Pope's being under supernatural guidance, because she had herself known four of them, and they were all such consummate fools that if they had not had Divine assistance, she did not see how they could ever have got on at all.

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Collections made on all the principal cities of the United States and Canadas.

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THE

SAFE DEPOSIT CO.,

OF PITTSBURGH,

Chartered by Special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, for the

Safe Keeping of Valuables,

UNDER GUARANTEE, AND THE

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BUILDING AND OFFICE:

No. 83 FOURTH AVENUE, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Office Hours—From 8 o'clock A. M. to 5 o'clock P. M.

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Secretary and Treasurer.....WM. LITTLE.

HART, CAUGHEY & CO.

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CORNER FOURTH AVE. AND WOOD STREET

PITTSBURGH, PA.,

(Successors to HANNA, HART & CO.,)

Dealers in Exchange, Coin, Coupons, &c.

Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT BONDS.

B. K. JAMISON, W. M. STEWART, J. H. KERSHOW.

ESTABLISHED 1855.

B. K. Jamison & Co.,

BANKERS,

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Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other investment Securities.

Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.

Deposits of Banks and Bankers received, subject to check at sight. Interest allowed according to agreement.

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Dealers in GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD SILVER, &c.

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WHEAT WHISKIES.

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No. 34 Federal Street, Allegheny City.

B. H. LUBBERS,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

Foreign and Domestic

Wines and Liquors,

FRENCH BRANDIES, WINES, HOLLAND GINS, &c.,

No. 386 Fifth Avenue Extension.

Agent for the CELEBRATED "ISLAND QUEEN" brand of Wine.

Constantly on hand the FINEST ASSORTMENT OF WINES to be found in any House in Western Pennsylvania.

PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF ALLEGHENY CO., Pittsburgh, Pa., December 24, 1874.

Notice to Butchers and Bakers.

Sealed Proposals

Directed to the Board of Inspectors of Allegheny County Prison, will be received at this Office until the 30TH INST., inclusive, for Furnishing the County Jail with good Wheat Bread, for six months, beginning on the 15th of January, 1875, to be delivered daily, in such quantities as the Warden or his Agent may direct.

ALSO,

SEALED PROPOSALS, directed as above, will be received at this office until the 30TH INST., inclusive, for Furnishing the County Jail with good Rolling Beef, free from bone, for six months, beginning on the 15th of January, 1875, to be delivered daily in such quantities as the Warden or his Agent may direct.

HENRY WARNER,
Secretary Board of Prison Inspectors.

PETROLEUM.

WARING BROS.,

Successors to Waring & King,

Commission Merchants in Petroleum and its Products,

49 Fifth Avenue.

Philadelphia address, WARING BROTHERS & CO., 30 Walnut street.

WM. HOLMES.....JAMES IRWIN

JAMES IRWIN & CO.,

OIL OF VITRIOL, MURIATIC ACID, NITRIC ACID, ENGLISH CAUSTIC SODA, And AQUA AMMONIA.

OFFICE—NO. 15 MARKET ST., PITTSBURGH

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, December 28, 1874.

The rates for discounts in the Pittsburgh loan market have undergone no change since our last report. The transactions continue to be confined to the routine business that comes up daily over the counter of the banks, and the demand from such quarters is readily met.

Any special movement in money indicating activity in trade is not discernable, nor do investors appear disposed to make purchases; any effort to place permanent loans unless already well known is a thankless task, no matter how good the security. The Eastern markets present much the same appearance, and a Philadelphia banker, in describing the condition of that market, aptly says that it is necessary to build a fire under investors to move them out of the beaten track. The reports of the transactions in the New York stock market indicate some activity in leading speculative shares. Western Union remained steady at 79½@79¾, and there has been large transactions in Lake Shore at from 79¼@80¾. The other stocks have been dull but generally well sustained. From all that we can learn, we are inclined to the belief that stocks are very cheap, and that we shall have much higher prices during January, especially in view of the large amount of money about to be paid out in the shape of dividends and interest. It is also reported that some of the leading bears of the New York market have turned buyers within the past few days, and are turning their attention especially to those stocks which have been sold on sixty days, seller's options. An exception to the general market for the day is Wabash, which declined from 23 to 19¾, under heavy sales. Pacific Mail remains steady at 36¼@36¾, most operators being afraid to touch a stock that has such erratic tendencies. There is little doubt, however, that it is a purchase, and it is said that Jay Gould, who has been short of the market for some time past, is now on the bull side.

—The transactions on the New York Stock Exchange probably aggregate greater amounts during the year than those of any other place in the world. These transactions are noted with pencil in the books of the brokers, and, with the very least possible show of formality, are consummated. In no other place are such large dealings left to the word of the operator, with no form of writing to bind him. Here is the very center of our whole monetary system, from which radiate the wires to every city and town of the country that record the pulsations of the market. The tremendous strain upon these energies is seen in the haggard, tried faces after the day's work is over, and occasionally an exhausted, fainting form is borne out, overcome by the excitement, or a brain gives way, as did that of Albert Speyer on Black Friday, leaving him a hopeless maniac. In contrast to this is to be seen the hilarious amusements that at times take possession of the brokers.

The *Herald* draws the following picture of the scenes on the day before Christmas:

Christmas eve is always a season of unusual festivity at the Stock Exchange, for that is the occasion which the brokers seize upon to unload their stocks on the public, and it is ever up to date, and when it is uncorked the effervescence of lightly tremendous and can hardly be described; and it is somewhat more dangerous to witness it than to witness a bull fight or a lion combat. Ordinarily one of our leading broker is like an infuriated animal on Christmas eve, and has no regard for sex, age, quality or condition. Under the influence of carnival and its attendant excesses, while the stone and the block are reserved for those who so safely prevent any interference by the police. It has sometimes been a fashion with the brokers to wear false noses, but for false noses, but yesterday they were contented with cork ones. The lip has been worked by noisy boys, and which is used by the howling *gamin* to herald the approach of the Fourth of July. Christmas eve is the Fourth of July of Wall street day, soon after the opening of the Board, the fun commenced in earnest through fun it was. Many of the brokers had drunk liquor and were in a frame of mind to encourage any kind of devilry, and the element of fun was added to that business is very bad now in stocks and the bulls have been taking in very little money and making very few sales. The first performance of the day was that which in its nature was intended to throw a reflection on all monarchical institutions. Some poor darkey, who had never, probably, attended any ceremony of which doors were a feature, but a waiter, was induced, for a fee of $5, to enter the Stock Exchange and personate King Kalakaua. His Majesty of the Sandwich Islands. The wretched darkey had his pockets filled covering with all sorts of missiles, and then, to use the language of some of the boys, "the nigger was fixed into" the Stock Exchange with frightful velocity. There he was hustled and jammed and he had his hat broken; a thousand hands pulled his head from between his shoulders, into his ears and his mouth, and he was lifted off his feet and his head was put in its proper set, but still the crowd bore him upward, and, as the liquor fermented in the broker's brains, the unfortunate man was then placed in the hand and he was driven to and fro, and finally was hoisted by the rioters of the tribune, and from thence he was told to address the maddened and jumping crowd below, who were now nearly like the pandemonium of which they like cats. In terror of his life the poor darkey began a speech in his native as loudly as his lungs would permit. Soon after an organ grinder was brought into the Stock Exchange, and was then in manner somewhat similar to the negro, and he was hustled into the same torn hat, and was also forced to grind Sicsay gaile. The frightened Italian was deprived of his breath as if bears had been hugging him, and he, too, was then hoisted, and had his hair shampooed by a huge scrubbing brush in the hands of a negro.

About a quarter before three the real King Kalakaua, with his suite, entered the building, and was received in due form and in accordance, which was no doubt taken as really the best of the representatives assembled Board of Brokers toward his Hawaiian Majesty.

—The following table shows the price of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 28, 1874.	10:20 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.	3:30 P. M.
Gold	11¼	11¼	11¼	11¼	11¼	11¼
Money						
6-20's, 1881, reg	122	122				
6-20's, 1862	114½	114½				
6-20's, 1864	116	116				
6-20's, 1865, reg	118	118				
6-20's, 1865, new	120½	120½				
6-20's, 1867	118	118				
6-20's, 1867, reg	118	118				
10-40's, reg	111	111				
10-40's, coup	111½	111½				
Currency 6's	117½	117½				
New 6's, reg	117	117				
Western Union Tel	79¼	79	79¼	79¼	79¾	79¾
Lake Shore	79¼		80	80	80	80
Pacific Mail	36¼	37	36¼	36¼	36	36
Panama	113½		114			
Adams Express	115¾		116			
Wells-Fargo Express	85		85½			
American Express	61½		62			
New York Central			101			
Erie	27¾		28			
Michigan Central	86¼	86	86¼	86	86	86
Michigan Southern	80¾		80¾	80	80	80
Illinois Central	125		125			
Cleveland & Pitts						
Chicago & Rock I	96¼	96	96¼	96	96	96
Do. preferred						
Pittsburgh	101		101			
St. Paul, common	37		37			
St. Paul, preferred						
Wabash	23		23			
Fort Wayne	94½		94½			
Ohio & Miss	31		31			
Union Pacific	34¾		34¾			
Hannibal & St. Joe	24		24			
Do. preferred	34¾		34¾			
C., C. & I. C	7		7			
Tennessee, old	78		78			
Tennessee, new	78		78			
South Carolina, Apr	26		26			
South Carolina, July	27		26			
Missouri 6's	97¼		97¼			

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central	82¼	82¾
Pennsylvania Central scrip	105½	106
Reading, sales	54¾	
United Companies of N. Jersey, extra dividend	127½	
Oil Creek	80	80½
Lehigh Valley, sales	62	
Allegheny Valley, sales	92	
Central Transportation	13¾	14
Empire Transportation		55
P. C. & St. L. mortgage bonds	74½	75
Gold	111¾	111¾

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 28, 1874.

The gloomy and unfavorable weather added to the pre-existing tendency toward dullness, caused a very quiet day's trade yesterday. Some little work was done, but it was mainly in the way of filling orders already received, and transacting routine business. As was to be expected, the volume of trade was very light, much less than usual at this season. With more favorable weather there might be an increase of trade, although a fairly active wholesale business need not be expected for some time yet. Values are generally unchanged.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail and river since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,385	Apples, bbls	191
Cheese, bxs	224	Corn, sks	1,570
Wheat, sks	332	Barley, sks	1,029
Rye, sks	173	Oats, sks	4,016
Butter, pkgs	55	Bacon, pcs	1,800
Bacon, tcs	25	Potatoes, bus	420
Hay, bales	760		

Sealed Proposals

will be received at this Office until the 30th inst., inclusive, for Furnishing the County Jail with good Rolling Beef, free from bone, for six months, beginning on the 15th of January, 1875, to be delivered daily, in such quantities as the Warden or his Agent may direct.

The following quotations are prices realized on wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Sales of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator:

GRAIN, FLOUR AND FEED.

GRAIN—The trade in grain was rather slow yesterday, but the market for corn and oats came into more prominence, some 1,500 bushels changed hands at fair prices. Otherwise the market is unchanged. We quote choice Kentucky white wheat at $1 35 @ $1 38 per bushel; extra Michigan white at $1 25@1 27; Ohio and Illinois white at $1 20@1 22; Ohio and Pennsylvania red wheat $1 16@1 18. Corn was steady, and quite firm. We quote high mixed at 77@78c per bushel; low mixed 75@76c. Ear is quoted at a range of 70@72c per bushel. Ear corn on the wharf sold at 72@73c. Oats were steady at about former prices—32½@34½c for white; 32@33c for mixed. Rye and barley are unchanged.

FLOUR.—The following are the wholesale prices of the local millers: No. 1 white wheat flour $7 20 @ bbl; No. 1 amber wheat do $6 50; red wheat flour $6 10; in sacks 30c off @ bbl. The jobbing prices are as follows: Choice brands of white winter wheat flour $7 50@8 25; Wisconsin $5 75; Minnesota $5 75@6 00; red winter wheat flour $5 75@6 00; rye flour $5 75; Graham flour $5 75; self-raising flour in 6 lb packages, $5 25 @ doz packages; corn meal, old $3 75; new $3 40@3 50; oat meal $7 75@8 00.

HAY—We quote prime timothy, on track, at $22 50@23 50 @ ton; No. 2 do $20 00@21 00; inferior $15 00@18 00; baled hay from store is quoted at $24 00@25 00. Loose hay is selling at $20 00@22 00 for No. 1; $25 00@27 00 for No. 2. Straw is quoted at $15 00@16 00 @ ton.

MILL FEED—Bran is steady at $1 05@1 10 @ cwt; shorts at $1 25@1 35 @ cwt; middlings $1 50@1 60 @ cwt; chopped feed $1 50@1 65 @ cwt; oil meal $1 90@2 00 @ cwt.

GROCERIES.

In the grocery trade we learn of nothing to vary the even and rather dull characteristics of the trade before noted. Prices continued unchanged as follows:

Green Coffees.	$ lb	*Spices.*	
Fancy	21@	Cloves, $ lb	55 c
Choice	20@	Allspice, $ lb	17½@18½c
Prime	19 c	Cassia, $ lb	40 @45 c
Good	18 c	Nutmegs, $ lb	135@140
Java	33 c	Pepper, $ lb	27 @28 c
Roasted Coffees.		*Molasses.*	
Rio in papers	25@26 c	Strictly ch'c N O	75c
Rio, in bulk	25 @26c	Prime	70c
Java	37 c	Good	60c
Sugars.		*Syrups.*	
Standard A	10½c	Ex. white drips	75c
Standard B	10½c	Sugar drips	65c
Standard extra C	10½c	Lowergrades	45@50c
Standard light C	10½c	*Rosins.*	
Franklin extra C	9½c	Layers, $ bx	$3 40
American extra C	9½c	Valentia, $ lb	11½c
New Orleans	8½@9½c	Currants	7½c
Teas.		Prunes	13 @15½
Young Hyson	50@$1 00	*Starch.*	
Gunpowder	50@$1 25	Common	5 c
Imperial	50@$1 00	Silver gloss	9½c
Japan	55@$1 00	Corn	10½c
Oolong	25@ 85	*Soda.*	
Fancy	1 00	Bi-carb, $ lb	5½c
Souchong	25@ 85	Bi-carb, $ lb papers	8c
Rice.		*Candle.*	
Choice Carolina	8½c	Star, full weight	18c
Patna	7½@8 c	Stearine	15c
Rangoon	7½c		

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

APPLES—Extra choice apples are quoted at $2 50@ bbl; $2 00@2 25 for choice; $1 25@1 75 for good to prime; common. On large sales these prices would be shaded.

BUTTER—The market is quotable at 55 @65c per gallon for prime to choice.

BEANS—We quote prime white navy at $2 00@2 25 for hand-picked; $1 75@2 00 fair to good; $1 50@1 70.

BUTTER—We quote at 30@32c for choice; 28@ 29c for medium. Little for common.

BEESWAX—Prime yellow beeswax is quoted at 31@33c @ lb, in round lots; sales in a jobbing way more at 35 @ 37c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Buckwheat flour is rather easy, and in large supply at $3 50 @ cwt; $7 00 @ bbl. Choice self-raising buckwheat flour is active, and a good trade is doing; we quote 6 lb packages at $1 20 @ doz; 12 lb packages $2 00.

CHEESE—We quote at 12c @ lb for Ohio factory; New York factory 12½@13c; Swedish 18@19c @ lb. Receipts 1,878 lbs for the past two weeks.

EGGS—The market is comparatively steady. We quote at 27@28c @ dozen for strictly fresh in barrels; 29@30c in cases; picked 28@29c. Receipts are liberal, being 50 pkgs yesterday.

CRANBERRIES—We quote at $8 00@10 00 for Western; $10 00@12 00 for Eastern; $11 00 @ barrel for Sackett's.

GAME—We quote as follows: Venison—saddles 10@12c @ lb; deer 10@12c; prairie chickens $3 50@6 75 @ doz; pheasants $3 50@4 00 @ doz; quail $1 25@1 50 @ doz; wild duck $1 75@4 00; rabbits 25@30c @ pair; squirrels 20@25c @ pair; wild turkeys $1 25@1 50 each.

POTATOES—The market rules at $1 70@2 00 @ barrel

FEATHERS—Are quoted as follows: No. 1, @ lb, 65@70c for round lots; 75@85c in a jobbing way; No. 2, @ lb, 20@30c, as to quality.

MIXED NUTS—Are quoted at 10c @ lb in a jobbing way.

ONIONS—The market remains quiet and unchanged, with light receipts and a slow demand. We quote at $3 40@3 50 for red; $3 00@ 3 40 for yellow.

POTATOES—We quote at 90@95c @ bushel for prime to choice Rebows, from store; medium grades 75@85c @ bushel.

POULTRY—We quote jobbing prices as follows: Dressed chickens 9@10c @ lb; turkeys 10@12c; geese 7@8c. Live poultry is in liberal supply but no demand, at nominal quotations of 75@80c @ pair for turkeys; 75@80c @ pair for chickens, and 60@65c each for geese. Drawn poultry rule 1@2c above quotations for dressed.

PRESERVES AND DRIED FRUIT—We quote dried apples at 6½@7c @ lb; dried blackberries 10c @ lb; dried peaches are quoted at 8@9c @ lb; apples in sacks, 3½@4c @ lb; peeled apples at 15@16c @ gallon; Honey is active and firm at 35c @ lb for clover; buckwheat blossom 25c @ lb. Maple sugar in packages is quoted at 9 @10c @ lb; 50 @ half barrel.

HIDES—The market is dull, and there are few sales. We quote in a jobbing way at 13@ 15c @ gallon for prime; inferior 10@12c.

BACON—The market is easy and prices are somewhat lower. We quote shoulders at 10 @10½c @ lb; hams 14@15c; sugar-cured shoulders at 11c @ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 14@15c; dried beef 14½@ 15c @ lb.

HAMS—There is a fair supply, and prices are easy. We quote plain sugar-cured at 14½@ 15c @ lb; sugar-cured shoulders at 11c @ lb; breakfast bacon is quoted at 14@15c; dried beef 14½@ 15c @ lb.

SHOULDERS—In lots of one car load or more, 10c @ lb; small lots, 10½@11c @ lb.

LARD—There is a fair supply, and prices are easy. We quote prime kettle rendered at 12½@ 13c @ lb; sugar-cured in tierces at 12½@13c @ lb; in 10 lb tins, 13½@14c.

TALLOW—We quote at 5@6c @ lb for country; 7c @ lb for city.

TITTSVILLE, December 28.—The *Courier* publishes the following sales:

200 bbls, upper road, spot.....92½c
350 bbls, upper road, spot.....92 c
250 bbls, upper road, spot.....92½c
200 bbls, upper road, spot.....92½c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, United, at wells.....73½c
1,000 bbls, Parkers, United, 60 days.....81½c

Very little was done. The market opened at 75c asked, but declined 2½c with a weaker feeling at the close.

PARKERS, December 28.—Market quiet and weak; United at wells 70c; immediate shipment 92½c.

TITTSVILLE, December 28.—Market steady with nothing doing; nominally at 80c.

OIL CITY, December 28.—Market weak with nothing doing; nominally 90@92½c

BOTTSVILLE, December 28.—No business yet; held at 80c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 28.—Market quiet with nothing doing; held at 80@85c.

TITUSVILLE, December 28.—Market very firm at 62½c bid, at wells 70c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 28.—Market quiet; W. I. 115 gravity 85c to 87½c; choice 90@92½; 162½c; sales none, and futures not quoted.

Refined Oil Shipped East by A. V. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, December 28, 1874.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Waring Bros	Waring Bros, Phila	443
Lockhart & F	Warden, F & Co, Phila	520
Total		963

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

December 24, 1874.

Shipper.	Consignee.	Bbls.
Henry Lloyd	Vesta O W	97
Petrolite Ref Co	Petrolite O W	718
Greer & Camp	Sunbeam O W	155
D. Fisher	Brilliant O W	183
Total		1,436

December 26, 1874.

Brilliant	Lockhart, F & Co	463
Stevenson	Liberty O W	80
Greer & Camp	Sunbeam O W	148
Lockhart & F	Brilliant O W	51
McKelvy	Vesta O W	38
Robinson	Petrolite O W	89
Total		1,475

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 28, 1874.

REMARKS—The heavy and incessant rain had a depressing effect upon the market. The streets, alleys and lanes leading to and through the cattle yards were in an almost impassable condition, which roused the question of "removal."

The market opened up dull and continued so throughout the day, and quite a number of cattle were left unsold, and would have to seek another place of offering.

The quality of the stock on sale was "all sorts," comprising the finest "tops" and the meanest "scalawags." Prices were as varied as was the quality of the stock, and it would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to give the precise ruling of the market.

The run was not a large one, the majority being driven in from the surrounding counties of Butler, Beaver, Washington, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence and Westmoreland. Many of the sheep offered would be driven back to the country to await a better market.

The Market.

Those who ought to know pronounced the market one of the dullest of the year. The holidays have had a bad effect on the meat market, pouring in the greatest taking the place of beef, pork and mutton.

CATTLE.

The number of cattle on sale, all told, would not exceed 750 head. Among the number were some very fine steers, which sold from 5½@6c, or about 100 pounds more than all the New England States put together, and about the same length in excess of the State of New York or the State of Ohio. The nominal cost of these cattles is represented by the combined sum of the bonds and capital stock, which would be at the rate of $47,477 per mile, to wit:

Preferred stock	$ 46,369,894 54
Common stock	293,456,621 70
Bonded debt	278,499,332 40
Floating debt	13,171,292 76
Total stock and debt	$629,458,641 70

This showing is not creditable to the railroad corporations of the State, upon which the Chicago *Tribune* aptly remarks:

"Illinois is a vast prairie. Its railroads run upon straight lines and upon a smooth horizontal surface, requiring few bridges, no tunnels, slight grading, or any other works of masonry and engineering of unusual cost. There is no service over railroads in the world that ought to have been constructed so cheaply as the railroads of Illinois. But we find upon comparison that they cost (?) about the same amount per mile as the railroads of the hilly, mountainous New England States, where the *actual* cost was probably more than as much again. To be sure, the Kentucky line in Illinois has been swollen by the villainous swindles in New York, where the average cost is represented to be $85,391 per mile; in New Jersey, where it is $115,820 per mile; in Pennsylvania, where it is $105,465 per mile, and in the Pacific States and far-west Territories, where it is $65,590 per mile. The railroads in Illinois cannot have actually cost more than railroads in Florida, where the average is $18,455 per mile. Instead of that, we find it to be more than double these figures."

The total earnings of the entire length of the reported lines are $68,386,878, and the total operating expenses $44,390,978. The business done in Illinois shows total receipts of $6,682,— 000, operating expenses, $25,315,742. Receipts over expenses in Illinois, $17,248,993. The comparisons above given show that to earn a fair dividend on their capital stock these railroads, after paying interest on their "padded indebtedness," would have to earn 6 or 7 per cent. on the money actually invested on them. The average rate for local passengers has been nearly four cents per mile, and for through passengers about 3½ cents per mile. The average rate for through freight has been 2 4-10 per ton per mile, and nearly 3 4-10 for local freights, which is above what it would be under economical management, and if the capital stock and debt represented only the actual cost of the railroads. The *Tribune* adds that it is not creditable to railroad management in Illinois that there should have been 227 persons killed and 404 injured by them within the year. This showing would indicate that some of their railroads are as reckless of human life as they are wasteful in their construction expenditures.

Oswego Market.

OSWEGO, December 28.—Wheat steady and quiet; No. 1 Milwaukee club $1 22; extra white Michigan $1 46. Corn dull at 90@92c. Barley quiet; prime Canada held at $1 50.

ADVANCE statistics taken from the annual report of the Massachusetts Railroad Commissioners show the most important collection of facts that has ever been made concerning the railroad system of that State. They have now 6,736 miles of road within the state of Illinois, or about 1,400 miles more than all the New England States put together, and about the same length in excess of the State of New York or the State of Ohio. The nominal cost of these railroads is represented by the combined sum of the bonds and capital stock, which would be at the rate of $47,477 per mile, to wit:

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Total stock and debt	$629,458,641 70

This showing is not creditable to the railroad corporations of the State, upon which the Chicago *Tribune* aptly remarks:

"Illinois is a vast prairie. Its railroads run upon straight lines and upon a smooth horizontal surface, requiring few bridges, no tunnels, slight grading, or any other works of masonry and engineering of unusual cost. There is no service over railroads in the world that ought to have been constructed so cheaply as the railroads of Illinois. But we find upon comparison that they cost (?) about the same amount per mile as the railroads of the hilly, mountainous New England States, where the *actual* cost was probably more than as much again. To be sure, the Kentucky line in Illinois has been swollen by the villainous swindles in New York, where the average cost is represented to be $85,391 per mile; in New Jersey, where it is $115,820 per mile; in Pennsylvania, where it is $105,465 per mile, and in the Pacific States and far-west Territories, where it is $65,590 per mile. The railroads in Illinois cannot have actually cost more than railroads in Florida, where the average is $18,455 per mile. Instead of that, we find it to be more than double these figures."

The total earnings of the entire length of the reported lines are $68,386,878, and the total operating expenses $44,390,978. The business done in Illinois shows total receipts of $6,682,— 000, operating expenses, $25,315,742. Receipts over expenses in Illinois, $17,248,993. The comparisons above given show that to earn a fair dividend on their capital stock these railroads, after paying interest on their "padded indebtedness," would have to earn 6 or 7 per cent. on the money actually invested on them. The average rate for local passengers has been nearly four cents per mile, and for through passengers about 3½ cents per mile. The average rate for through freight has been 2 4-10 per ton per mile, and nearly 3 4-10 for local freights, which is above what it would be under economical management, and if the capital stock and debt represented only the actual cost of the railroads. The *Tribune* adds that it is not creditable to railroad

CITY MATTERS.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV'C, Room 25, First National Bank, Pittsburgh, Pa., December 28, 1874.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	Hum.	Wind. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A.M.,	29.84	37	93	W.	Fresh.	H.rain.
2 P.M.,	29.75	48	91	W.	Fresh.	Lt.rain
10 P.M.,	29.80	39	86	W.	Fresh.	Lt.rain

Mean barometer.....29.80 Highest thermom.....61
Mean thermom.....51 Lowest thermom.....36
Rainfall.....1.65

Temperance Notes.

The temperance ladies will hereafter provide lunch at the Alliance Rooms from 6½ o'clock A. M. till 9 P. M., the cost to be from five to forty cents. The experiment commences to-day.

A paper is to be put into circulation for the purpose of obtaining signatures to a petition to Congress, asking such legislation as shall limit the importation, manufacture and use of alcohol to the arts and to mechanical, chemical and medical purposes, in the District of Columbia and the Territories.

The ladies of the W. C. T. U. will hold a mass meeting in Rev. Hanna's church on Sixth avenue this evening, and will be addressed by Rev. Blanchard, of Chicago, and other notable speakers.

A meeting was held last evening in the Baptist church, South Side.

Allegheny Committees.

The Street Committee, of Allegheny Councils, met last evening. The pay-rolls were presented and approved; as follows: Eastern district, $1,144 72; Western district, $355 35. The bills for the two districts, amounting to $2,400, were ordered paid.

The Health Committee met and heard the annual report of the Health Officer. After transacting the usual routine business the committee adjourned.

The Water Committee approved the monthly bills and acted upon applications for exonerations. It appeared, from the reports of officers, that the water assessments yielded about twelve thousand dollars more this year than last. The committee will recommend to the new Councils the early provision of better water facilities.

Allegheny Mortuary Report.

Health Officer Hoeh, of Allegheny, reports the number of deaths occurring in that city, during the week ending Saturday last as twenty-five. The causes of death were as follows: Typhoid fever, seven; still born, four; inflammation of the bowels, two; consumption, three; and one each of scarlet fever, pertussis, pneumonia, dropsy, asthma, abdominal tumor, pyaræmia, stenosis and marasmus. Of these there were under one year, nine; between one and five, one; between five and ten, three; between ten and twenty, four; between twenty and thirty, two; between thirty and forty, two; between forty and fifty, one; between sixty and seventy, two; between seventy and eighty, one. Male, sixteen; female, nine; white twenty-four; colored, one.

Installation at Springdale.

On Sabbath morning, 27th inst., Rev. Aaron Williams, D.D., was installed pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Springdale, for one-half his time." Rev. Messrs. Lawrence and Potter, of Sharpsburg; John Kerr, of Parnassus, and George Scott, of Tarentum, were present and took part in the services. This is a new church, organized about eighteen months ago, with a neat and commodious house of worship, handsomely finished and furnished, and all paid for. It is near Lincoln Station, on West Penn Railroad, about fourteen miles from the city, with a choice population surrounding it, and the elevated and beautiful plain on which it stands, with its numerous desirable building sites, must in a few years be occupied with fine villa residences, somewhat like those of the Sewickley Valley on the Fort Wayne Road.

Alleged Incendiarism.

We yesterday reported that Fire Marshal Livingston would, during the forenoon, commence an investigation into the cause of the fire at the house of David and Thomas Owens, located in the Eighteenth ward, which occurred on the 18th inst. On Saturday, after the time for the investigation was fixed, the Owens' called at the insurance offices where the risk had been taken and surrendered their policies on return of the premiums. This action increased the suspicion, already entertained, that all was not right, and a representative of the companies made an information charging the parties with "causing to be set on fire and burning a frame house located in the Eighteenth ward." Thomas Owens was arrested, and in default of bail was committed to jail to await a hearing on Saturday next.

To-day the Mt. Washington fire investigation will be continued.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health, makes the following report for the week ending December 26, 1874: Accident, by burn, 1; accident, by fall, 1; angina pectoris, 1; asphyxia, 1; brain, congestion of, 1; consumption, 5; croup, 1; diphtheritis, 1; debility, 3; erysipelas, 1; fever, typhoid, 7; scarlet, 1; heart, valvular disease of, 1; lungs, congestion of, 1; measles, 1; premature birth, 3; pneumonitis, 5; scrofula, 1; syphilis, congential, 1; unknown, 1; whooping cough, 1; total, 44. The deaths registered during the week include—Color: White, 41; colored, 3. Social relations: Married, 8; single, 33; widows, 2; widowers, 1. Nativity: Pittsburgh, 36; other parts of the United States, 5; England, 2; Germany, 4; Ireland, 5; Italy, 1; Wales, 1. Ages: Under 1 year, 13; from 1 to 2 years, 2; from 2 to 5 years, 9; from 5 to 10 years, 2; from 15 to 20 years, 6; from 20 to 30 years, 1; from 30 to 40 years, 2; from 40 to 50 years, 5; from 50 to 60 years, 4; from 60 to 70 years, 1; from 70 to 80 years, 1. Localities: City wards, 42; Mercy hospital, 1; Orphan Asylum, 1.

The Poultry Fair.

There will be some pretty lively competition at the next annual exhibition and fair of the Western Pennsylvania Poultry Society, to be held in old City Hall, January 13th to 20th. The premiums for all kinds of chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, pigeons, etc., are very liberal, and the entries promise to be large. Dog fanciers have been stirred up by special premiums, among which we may note the following: $20 for best Gordon setter, by Paul Hugus Hacke; $15 (silver medal) for best collection of dogs, not less than three varieties, by Joseph T. Speer; $20 for best sotter, by "Two Amateurs," together with a number of others, offered by prominent citizens. Cash premiums are offered, forty-three in number, by almost as many different citizens, among which we notice Brewer's purse of $50, for best trio of light Brahmas, old or young; Wm. Thaw, $20 for best pair of dark Brahmas, old or young; J. H. Johnston, silver-mounted pistol, worth $15, for largest fowl of any variety; Charles J. Clarke, $30 for best trio of brown Leghorns, fowls or chickens, the donor of the prize to take the trio. President Gregg informs us that the prospects for the exhibition are very encouraging.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following deeds were filed of record in the office of Ralph J. Richardson, County Recorder, December 28, 1874:

ALLEGHENY.

Third ward—Wm. M. Gornely to Rebecca A. Adams, May 12, 1873; lot 198x30 feet, Whitecoak alley.....$ 350 00
Third ward—Arthur Robson to Rebecca A. Adams, May 13, 1873; lot as above.....nominal
Robinson street—Mary B. Jackson to W. M. Heron, October 5, 1872; lot on Robinson street, 22x110 feet.....3,500 00

ROBINSON.

St. Clair—J. Ludwig Koethen to Wm. Neuhauser, December 23, 1874; lot 20x 95 feet, on Logan's plan.....$ 300 93
Chartiers—James A. Dunbar to N. S. Coulter, April 1, 1873; lot 122x200 feet.....nominal
Chartiers—Samuel Rudolph to David Thornton, April 1, 1873; lot 120x24 feet.....1,375 00
Chartiers—Patrick Murphy to David Thornton, April 11, 1874; lot 141x178 feet.....1,000 00

TOWNSHIP.

Fayette—Jas. Wallace, W. P. Rund & Co., November 28, 1874; interest in coal underlying 16 acres and 110 perches last named.....nominal
Sugar—James Grier, guardian, to W. P. Rund & Co., June 27, 1874; coal under land as above.....4,180 15
Jefferson—Henry Lloyd to Thomas S. Baker, November 4, 1874; 1 acre and 34 perch land.....1,567 00
Wilkins—Jas. A. Deede to Geo. H. Deede, February 11, 1874; 2 acres and 41 perches land, with mortgage.....800 00

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

John Behan *et al.* vs. Martin McMahan, of Pittsburgh. In order to show cause was issued and made returnable on the 10th prox. application was also made for an injunction and a hearing on the same fixed for the 6th inst., and in the meantime a restraning order was issued against Frank McDonald *et al.*

Morris & Lewis vs. S. Frankenstein. Clarion county. Josiah Cohen, Esq., moved to vacate and set aside the warrant of arrest, and after argument by Messrs. Cohen and Fulton, the motion was refused and bail fixed at $1,000.

Harbaugh, Matthias & Owens, bankrupts. An order on the assignee of David Matthias to convey to him certain land in McClure township, was referred to Register Harper for examination and report.

Blackmore & Nelson, bankrupts. Petition of Martin Luis for leave to sell personal property of James Blackmore, presented and referred to Register Harper for examination and report.

Thomas Balderston, bankrupt, Allegheny. The creditors having chosen G. Bilderback, James W. Huston and Otis Shephard, Trustees, and Thos. H. Reise, R. Crouch and C. E. Ramsey a committee under whom the Trustees shall act, the same is approved, and proceedings in bankruptcy superceded.

District Court—Judge White.

The case of McKinney's assignees vs. Wood *et al.* is still on trial in this court.

BILLIARD HALLS are said to be kept open for play on Sunday.

EXIT COUNCILS 1874!

The Last Regular Meeting Yesterday—Winding Up the Business—The City versus the Oakland Railway—Resolutions of Thanks.

The final meeting of Pittsburgh Councils, for the year 1874, was held yesterday afternoon. Select Council adjourned *sine die*, but there is talk of a special meeting of the Common branch. The following business was transacted:

SELECT BRANCH.

Dr. Gross, President, called this branch to order, and after the reading of the minutes,

Mr. McCune, from the Finance Committee, offered a resolution providing for the payment of salaries in the water department for December from other funds, named, where balances remain. The resolution was adopted.

Also, a resolution covering the refunding of certain overpaid business taxes. Adopted.

Also, a resolution covering exonerations of business tax. Adopted.

THE BOND EXCHANGES.

Mr. McCune also presented the ordinance authorizing the exchange of registered water bonds, which has already been reported.

On motion of the same gentleman, the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering the ordinance.

Mr. Rafferty moved to amend the ordinance providing that the exchange shall be made by and with the consent of the Finance Committee.

Some discussion occurred, during which Mr. Aiken called attention to the fact that the third section provided for a monthly report to the Finance Committee. The speaker thought the object was to defeat the ordinance.

The amendment was lost and the ordinance was then passed by a vote of 35 to 10.

Mr. McCune presented a report from the Committee on City Property covering the expenditures for November. Accepted.

TAXES DUE FROM THE OAKLAND RAILWAY.

Mr. Anderson, from the special committee appointed for the purpose of adjusting the claim of the city against the Oakland Passenger Railway for taxes, presented a report in substance as follows:

The entire claim of the city against the Oakland Passenger Railway, in 1872, when suit was brought, was $19,414, of which about $5,000 were for repairs to streets traversed by the company—the amount due for tax on cars and on dividends, with interest, etc., being $14,414.

The city claimed that an average of twenty cars per day had been run, but the company averred that seven cars was the average number run daily. The company also alleged serious loss by interruption of business in the construction of improvements on the streets, and also that a final compromise had been made with the Street Committee, whereby the company was to pay one-third of the expenses of repaving Fifth avenue from Chestnut to Diwiddie streets, in lieu of all demands there existing. This proposition was accepted by a sub-committee, but it seems to have failed, as Councils took no action, and no money was ever paid thereof.

The committee, however, in view of all the facts, proposed to accept, as a final settlement, the following amounts:

Tax on cars	$3,730 60
In lieu of dividends	1,400 00
Repaving Fifth avenue	1,456 51
Total	$6,586 51

This the company refused to accept, for various reasons—the main ones being, that the company could not be held liable for anything prior to the alleged compromise, and that the statute of limitation would cut off a large part of the claim. These reasons the committee deemed insufficient, and reported as above stated.

The committee present a resolution covering their recommendations.

The resolution requires the above amounts to be paid in three months, and in case of failure the City Attorney is to proceed without delay in pressing the claim of the city to judgement.

Mr. Dannals thought the Councils should demand and take only the whole amount due from the company.

Mr. Anderson stated that the committee would have been very glad to have obtained the whole amount due from the company, but it did not appear to them possible. They had done the best they could, and left the further disposition of the matter to Councils.

Mr. Littell was willing to trust the committee. That very elaborate report showed that they had made a diligent and thorough examination of the matter. It should be remembered, said the speaker, that in this matter we have a very wily and intriguing enemy, Judge Mellon and others, to deal with. [Laughter.]

After a few remarks from Mr. Rafferty, the resolution was adopted.

Mr. A. G. McCandless presented a resolution requesting the Mayor and police department, to put a stop to the giving of obscene and immoral exhibitions at varieties theaters. Adopted unanimously.

Common Council business was then taken up and acted upon favorably, except the resolution declaring a report of names of members absent from committee meetings.

Mr. McCune called up the resolution presented at last meeting, instructing the City Attorney to prosecute the late Street Commissioner of the Sixth district, Mr. Spreen, criminally.

The resolution was adopted.

THANKS TO DR. GROSS.

Mr. Scully, Mr. McCune offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Council are hereby due to Dr. A. H. Gross, for his uniform courtesy and urbanity in the discharge of his duty as President of this body; and, that the best wishes for his welfare and happiness is hereby tendered to him.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Gross being called upon responded as follows:

Fellow Members of Select Council.—As your presiding officer for the past year, I thank you most sincerely for the expression of approbation given in the resolution just passed.

From the first day that this hammer tapped upon the desk to call you to order of business, until this moment, I have ever received from you cordial kindness and support in the discharge of the duties of the Chair, which certainly have often been arduous and responsible. I am conscious that it is difficult for any person to discharge the obligations of this position with entire satisfaction. All I can say, I have endeavored to come as near the result as possible.

During the past year we have had many intricate and responsible questions to meet. It is not for us but for our constituents to judge how the duties have been performed. One thing however I can safely say, that no one should doubt the earnestness and honesty of purpose with which you gentlemen have endeavored to discharge the responsibilities resting upon you as members of this body.

Allow me again most heartily to thank you.

The remarks of Dr. Gross were received with applause.

Mr. Littell presented a resolution complimentary to Dr. A. G. McCandless, as with the present Councils, retires to private life after many years services to the city.

The resolution was adopted by a rising vote.

Mr. McCandless made a fitting response, which was applauded.

Adjourned *sine die*.

COMMON BRANCH.

PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ETC.

The following petitions were presented and referred: For exoneration of Mrs. Kuntzman; for repairing Thirty-ninth street; gas lamps on Hatfield, Forty-fourth and Main streets; opening Alder street; reduction of taxes of Louis Orrin, Mr. Grieneisen, and Burt Brothers; grading and paving Church alley; of John Erglan, for damages for grading Stanton street; remonstrance against opening School alley.

Mr. Glass presented an ordinance fixing compensation of the police. It provides that after January 1st, 1875, the pay of the Chief of Police shall be $1,200 per annum, each of Captains and Lieutenants $2 25, each policeman $2, and each lampwasher $1 50. Referred to Police Committee.

Mr. Robinson offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of three, two from Common and one from Select branch, to wait on the Water Committee and try to ascertain why fire plugs have not been placed on the South Side. Passed, and Messrs. Robinson and Turney appointed.

Mr. West offered the following, which was referred to the City Attorney:

Resolved, That the City Attorney be and he is hereby directed to report an opinion to Councils as to the liability of the South Side wards to pay any portion of the interest on the principal of that part of the "water bonds" indebtedness incurred by the Water Committee in making extension of the water mains, &c., (expenses other than ordinary) during the years 1868, '69, '70 and '71, amounting to $918,555 97, as per report of Water Committee submitted to Councils December 14th, 1874, or to any other deficiences prior to the above date.

Mr. West presented an ordinance regulating the running of street cars on Fourth avenue and Smithfield streets. Referred.

Mr. Duff—Resolution requiring all standing committees in their annual reports to make a statement of the attendance of members during the year. Passed.

REPORTS OF VIEWERS.

Viewers' reports on opening of Craig street, from Forbes street to Fifth avenue; Railroad street, from Virginia avenue to Mason street; Washington avenue, from Brownsville avenue to city line, and Emmet street, from Wadsworth to Soho streets, were presented and approved.

COMMISSIONER SPREEN'S DISMISSAL.

Mr. Seibert presented the report of the committee appointed to investigate the alleged speculations of Street Commissioner Spreen. The committee found that Mr. Spreen is guilty of the charges made against him, and they submitted with their report the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, By the Select and Common Councils of the city of Pittsburgh, that from evidence brought to the knowledge of Councils of wilful acts of misconduct on the part of H. C. Spreen in the discharge of the duties of his office as Street Commissioner of the Sixth district, said H. C. Spreen shall henceforth be dismissed and dishonorably discharged from his said office, and shall forever hereafter be debarred from holding, with the approbation of Councils, any office of trust or profit in the municipal government of the city of Pittsburgh, and that this resolution be engrossed upon the minutes of Councils by the clerk.

Mr. Aull, from the Survey Committee, presented the monthly and annual reports of said committee. The reports were received and filed, and the annual report ordered to be printed in the official papers.

Mr. Seibert presented an ordinance for the assessment of damages caused by grading Hilton avenue, from Penn avenue to the water works. Read a second time.

Mr. Duff—A resolution authorizing the Committee on City Property to select a site and report cost of the same for a station house in the Thirty-seventh ward. Passed.

An ordinance fixing the pay of the City Physician was ruled out by the chair as illegal, because there is no provision for the office by ordinance.

Mr. Fox, from the Printing Committee, reported the expenditures for November $353 10, and the total expenses for 1874, to date, $11,948 59, leaving an unexpended balance of $51 41. Received and filed.

Mr. Flinn, from a special committee, presented the report of the committee, recommending the approval of the viewers' report on construction of Forbes street sewer. Report received and recommendation adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Ordinance ratifying and approving the action of officials in constructing bridge on Main street, over Saw Mill Run, in 1872, of iron and wood, the same as if the material had been designated by ordinances. Passed.

Ordinance locating Robinson street, Thirtieth ward. Read a second time.

Ordinance for a pipe sewer on Washington street, from Wylie to Webster avenues. Read a second time.

Ordinance authorizing an exchange of registered bonds, passed in S. C. December 28th. Read once.

Mr. Milligan—A resolution providing that no standing committee of C. C. shall consist of more than thirteen members. Passed.

SELECT COUNCIL BUSINESS.

The business of Select Council was taken up. The action of that body in accepting the resignation of Street Commissioner Spreen was non-concurred in. A resolution from the Finance Committee, authorizing transfers from certain appropriations for water works purposes, passed in S. C. December 28th, C. C. concurred. In all other business from S. C., C. C. concurred.

A resolution to meet on Saturday at two o'clock was passed.

A resolution to provide better accommodations for reporters was, on motion, "laid on the reporters' table."

A resolution of thanks to President Negley was passed.

Mr. Duff presented an ordinance providing that the Police Committee may elect a City Physician. Ordered to be printed.

A resolution was presented confirming the appointment of Charles Ott as Street Commissioner *pro tem.* in place of Spreen, removed. Passed.

Adjourned.

CITY HALL AUDITING.

Further Session of the Committee—A Contractor Declines to Give Information Regarding His Private Affairs—Emphatic Denial from Joseph Walton, Esq.

Messrs. John H. Bailey and Reuben Miller, Sr., of the City Hall Auditing Committee continued their examination yesterday.

Mr. Henderson, of the firm of Henderson, Mackin & Co., contractors for the stone work was called. Mr. Bailey commenced to question witness as to the profits made on their contract, but he declined to answer, except that he did not know exactly, and that it was the firms private business.

In answer to a question from Mr. Bailey, as to whether there was any other testimony to be brought forward, Mr. Alex. King stated that they desired to have some books of the late Treasurer Allinder.

Mr. John Born, janitor of Municipal Hall, testified that he had made diligent search among all the old books of the offices, but could not find them.

The committee decided to allow further time.

AN EMPHATIC DENIAL.

Captain Joseph Walton, addressing the Auditing Committee, said: Gentlemen, I see that improper liberties have been taken with my name by a witness who was examined here last Wednesday, and I hope you will accord me the privilege of making a statement under oath.

Mr. King—Oh, you were not the man which Altvater meant.

Capt. Walton—Yes, I was the man, too. As soon as I read the report in the papers I hurried to Altvater's house, and if he hadn't been so much under the influence when I called, there would have been a fight in the South Side. Passed, and Messrs. Robinson and Turney appointed.

Mr. West offered the following, which was referred to the City Attorney:

Resolved, That the City Attorney be and he is hereby directed to report an opinion to Councils as to the liability of the South Side wards to pay any portion of the interest on the principal of that part of the "water bonds" indebtedness incurred by the Water Committee in making extension of the water mains, &c., (expenses other than ordinary) during the years 1868, '69, '70 and '71, amounting to $918,555 97, as per report of Water Committee submitted to Councils December 14th, 1874, or to any other deficiences prior to the above date.

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Mr. Aull, from the Survey Committee, presented the monthly and annual reports

THE CARR-DOLAN HOMICIDE.

Trial of Edward Carr for the Murder of Thomas Dolan.

The trial of Edward Carr for the murder of Thomas Dolan, was taken up in the Court of Oyer and Terminer, yesterday morning, Judges Sterrett and Collier presiding. The facts of this case were these: The defendant and the deceased were both mill hands, but it seems they had not been acquainted. On the night of the 15th of November, between half-past ten and eleven o'clock, Dolan and Alexander Peebles were walking along Second avenue, at Frankstown, Twenty-third ward, on their way home from the Eliza furnace. Here they met Carr, who inquired as to the locality of a certain saloon, when words passed between the three men, which ended in a fight, and in Carr striking Dolan a fatal blow on the head with a stone. Dolan lingered eleven days, when he died. In the meantime, Carr fled to Cambridge, Ohio, where he was arrested some two weeks ago, and brought here for trial. The prisoner is a man of about thirty years of age, tall, well developed, and of a very powerful physical organization.

District Attorney Bayne and Major Montooth, District Attorney elect, appeared for the Commonwealth, and Messrs. Moore and Mackrell for the defense.

Very little time was spent in getting a jury, and there was not much interest manifested in the trial.

THE TESTIMONY.

The following testimony was then elicited for the prosecution:

Alex. Peebles, sworn—He testified that he was a laborer at Eliza furnaces, Frankstown, and that he worked with Dolan, who was obliged to labor on Sunday, getting through about ten o'clock in the evening. Dolan had been on duty sixteen hours that day, and he and the witness started to their boarding house that night, which was between a quarter and half a mile from the mill, along Second avenue; Carr, he thought, he saw coming toward the furnaces just before they left; on their way home they met Carr, who first spoke to witness and wanted to know where Tom Barrett's was. The witness said it was up the road apiece, when Carr called him a liar and said the place was just there where they were. Dolan said to witness to come along; that Carr knew where Barrett's was better than witness. Carr walked along with them, Carr and Dolan walking together. Witness heard Dolan say something like "You counterfeit" and a moment later Dolan and Carr were clinching each other, they ran down the avenue towards the mill a short distance, Dolan following Carr, and leaving witness behind. When witness came up with them Carr threw two stones at witness and witness saw Carr throw several other stones, but did not see Dolan struck; although he saw that he was injured. Dolan said "I'm done." His face and breast were all over blood then, and his forehead was wounded. Dolan was taken to his home. Dolan was not as old a man as Carr.

On cross-examination the witness admitted that he did not know who struck first, but saw Dolan use his dinner bucket freely.

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY.

Mr. Moore now desired to know whether witness was a member of the Hibernian Society. The prosecution objected, when Mr. Moore said he proposed to show that the Society had contributed funds for the purpose of sustaining this prosecution. The question was allowed and the witness said he had never contributed anything nor made any promises to contribute; no one ever having asked him for anything.

MORGAN'S STATEMENT.

Napoleon Morgan, sworn—The witness lived in the Twenty-third ward, and was sometimes a carpenter and sometimes a machinist; he knew both Dolan and Carr; Dolan four years and Carr for two weeks; the witness lives between twelve and fifteen feet from the place of the fuss; he heard loud talk and quarreling, and was from his door Dolan strike at Carr with a bucket, and Carr strike back at him; Peebles was a couple of yards from them at the time, and when Peebles ran up, Carr broke loose and ran down the road, Dolan and Peebles following. Afterwards Carr came back to near witness' house and stopped, and Dolan, who had lost, saying that two rowdies had attacked him. After the fuss Dolan and Peebles walked home, neither of them appearing injured. Witness was certain that Carr was chased to the side of the shed on the bank of the avenue toward the river, and afterwards down the avenue by Dolan and Peebles.

Court adjourned at one o'clock till two.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At two o'clock the trial of Carr was resumed, the first witness called being Jas. Hardy. The witness testified that Carr boarded with him, and that he usually went to bed about half-past nine or ten o'clock, but on the night of the assault he left the house about half-past nine o'clock, and did not return until about one; Carr said to him, "a couple of fellows tried to go for me a piece down the road, but I gave them enough;" the witness kept the boarding house, and shortly after he saw Carr, he left the house. On returning Carr said he wanted his board bill, that he had better clear out until this thing was over.

John Jones and Timony Sullivan were next examined, but their testimony was unimportant.

DYING DECLARATIONS.

Dr. Donnelly was next examined, and testified to having attended the deceased as a surgeon. The skull had been fractured, and a piece of bone removed. When satisfied that Dolan would not recover, the doctor took his dying declarations, which he reduced to writing, but some one had taken the paper from his office. A discussion followed on the admission of this testimony, but the doctor was permitted to say that Dolan stated that Carr had killed him; that he gave him no provocation, and that it was only after Carr had assailed him that he struck back with his dinner bucket.

The prosecution then rested their case.

NO DEFENSE MADE.

The counsel for the prisoner made no formal defense, relying upon the testimony adduced by the prosecution.

All the counsel made speeches to the jury, Major Montooth concluding for the commonwealth in a very creditable effort. The Commonwealth did not insist upon a conviction for murder of the first degree, as the specific intent to take life was not clearly made out. It was argued, however, that Carr was guilty of murder of the second degree.

The counsel for the prisoner insisted upon an acquittal, on the ground that Carr had been pursued by the deceased and his friend, and had reason to apprehend that his life was in danger.

Judge Collier then delivered the charge to the jury, clearly and briefly defining the grades of homicide. He stated that although a verdict of murder of the first degree was not insisted on, yet the jury had power to pass upon all the grades. If they believed that Carr had intended to kill, then they should consider which of the lower grades of homicide was warranted by the testimony—whether it was murder of the second degree manslaughter, or whether the killing was in self-defense. The Court instructed the jury as to what was necessary to reduce the offense from the highest to the lower grades, and briefly referred to the testimony as bearing upon the case.

The jury retired, and the Court took a recess until half-past seven o'clock.

At 8:45 P. M. word came from the jury that there was no immediate prospect of an agreement upon a verdict, when Court adjourned till the usual hour this morning.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mr. John S. Clarke opened an engagement of only one week last evening in "The Heir-at-Law" and "Toodles." In the former comedy Mr. Clarke played the noted character of *Doctor Pangloss*, in which he has acquired so enviable a reputation. It is indescribably funny. The large audience would have voted a solid "Aye" to that sentiment. In fact, they roared from the beginning to the end of the two performances. To-day they are the better for it, and to-night they will go back and take another installment of fun.

Mr. Clarke was well supported by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Walcot, Mr. Lewis Morrison, Mr. B. W. Turner, and the Opera House company.

To-night "Red Tape" and "A Widow Hunt" will be given. Of Mr. Clarke's part in the former piece, the London *Times* says:

"This is a part which affords great opportunities to a comedian who combines ingenuity with humor to such a degree as Mr. Clarke. Not a single opportunity is lost. The speech which he makes at his tea-table for the purpose, he says, of keeping his hand in, is a specimen of mock grandiloquence that could not be surpassed. In his practical jokes Mr. Clarke is equally amusing. At ten o'clock on Saturday night, there was not a more popular personage in London, so far as his immediate surroundings were concerned, than the country lawyer."

Toole, the Comedian.

J. L. Toole, the English comedian, with a company of his own selection and training, will appear at Library Hall, under the management of Mr. V. E. Beamer, on the 6th, 7th and 8th of January, instead of the dates given yesterday for the Academy. As this will be the first as well as the only opportunity to see this great actor, no one should fail to go.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The entertainment now given at this theater is an excellent one, consisting of the Denier pantomime of "Old Dame Trot," and a full variety olio. There will be a matinee to-morrow.

The Bohemian Girl.

A large audience were in attendance at Library Hall last evening to enjoy a repetition by the Concord Club of their performance of "The Bohemian Girl." As on the occasion of its first presentation, the opera was very well given. The only drawback was the severe cold of Mr. Boehme, whose *Devilshoof* was so effective the first time he essayed the part. Mr. Smythe, the capable stage manager, made Mr. Boehme's apology to the audience, who forgave his almost total loss of voice for the unusual excellence of his acting. Miss Wallace (*Arline*) was in good voice and fully sustained the reputation she had previously acquired. She was generously rewarded with flowers, and yielded to an urgent "*encore*" of the "Marble Halls" solo. Mrs. Tetedoux (*Gipsy Queen*) shared the bouquets and applause with Miss Wallace. Messrs. Colville and Everson were also flatteringly received, the latter getting an *encore* for "The Heart Bowed Down," and the latter for "Then You'll Remember Me." We ought to be proud of a local organization which can bring out operas for us in such style; and now that we have shown our readiness to sustain these musical efforts, there is every probability that we shall have more cause for pride in the same direction.

Engineer Arrested.

William Aikens, engineer of locomotive No. 63, on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, ran his locomotive across Federal street at a greater rate of speed than allowed by city ordinance, and also neglected to have the bell rung. Officer Noble made an information against him at the Mayor's office, charging him with violation of a city ordinance. Aikens was arrested and had a hearing yesterday morning. After the testimony had been given in the Mayor severely reprimanded Aikens, but in consequence of its being his first offense, allowed him to go on paying the costs.

Fire in Allegheny.

Between eleven and twelve o'clock last night a bright light was seen on the Perrysville road, on Federal street extension, Allegheny, evidently caused by a burning building. It was reported that the residence of Mr. John Burgess, florist, was destroyed.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

GENTLEMEN of "good address" on New Year's Day—newspaper carriers.

ALL quiet in Allegheny. Mayor Fleming had not a single case yesterday morning.

THE Allegheny Poor Board will convene this afternoon, to finish up the year's business.

A RESIDENT of this city is the owner of a six-year old cheese. He says "there's millions in it."

JOHN SAURS, on oath of Fred Worth, was held for a hearing, before Alderman Donley, on a charge of larceny.

THE proposed new gymnasium is said to be a success. One hundred and fifty-one members have been enrolled.

THE "swearing-off" business has already commenced. A work from Friday every bummer in the land will be at it.

JOHN PRYLE, a South Sider, was yesterday committed to jail by Alderman Donley, to answer a charge of larceny.

AN oyster supper will be given this evening, from 6:30 to 10:30, at the Sandusky street Baptist church. Everybody is invited.

THE world has had its holiday and has gone back to work. Let us trust it is a better, wiser, kindlier world for its spell of merriment.

A POSTOFFICE letter box on Penn avenue, East End, was broken into by thieves on Sunday night, for the purpose of obtaining valuable letters.

ALDERMAN GRAHAM, of Allegheny, yesterday committed J. F. McClintock to jail for a hearing on a charge of larceny by bailee, on oath of J. L. Grouse.

THE store of Mr. Foster, at Bridgeville, Fayette township, was entered by burglars Friday night and robbed of goods valued at one hundred dollars.

TWO keno bankers were arrested last night and held in the sum of $5,000 each for a hearing before the Acting Mayor, on the charge of keeping a gambling house.

THE bursting of the embankment at John Hall's pond, near Wood's run, last evening, caused an overflow of water in that vicinity, filling a number of cellars.

SIXTY-ONE married men are now furnished with work and board at the Allegheny Poor Farm, and each receives seventy-five cents a day for the support of his family.

THE expenditures from the Police appropriation during November were $16,195 80; total expenditures for the year to date, $189,985 50; balance of appropriation, $17,044 50.

MRS. E. R. MOORE, of Veto street, Allegheny, charged two boys by the names of Thomas Hays and Milford Brown with malicious mischief, before Alderman D. L. Smith.

G. ARBUCKLE, who was arrested by Detective Long for taking another man's overcoat at Hare's Hotel, was yesterday morning sent to the Workhouse for sixty days.

ALDERMAN J. MARTIN SCHAFER, of the South Side, is a candidate for the position of Deputy Mayor under Mayor McCarthy. His petition has received a large number of signatures.

JAMES PECK was taken to the Penitentiary yesterday by the Sheriff of Fayette county. He has been convicted of horse stealing and sentenced to imprisonment for three years and a half.

A LETTER came to the Allegheny postoffice a day or two since addressed to "John and William Smith, both red headed, Allegheny City." The parties for whom the missive was intended were found by the letter carrier.

THE last official act of Dr. A. G. McCandless, as member of Councils, was the presentation of a resolution requesting the executive officer of the city and police to put a stop to the immoral and obscene shows in our midst.

G. H. SCHMIDT, an Allegheny clothier, charged J. Dallenbaugh with obtaining a suit of clothes under false pretenses, that he owned a valuable horse. Alderman D. L. Smith issued a warrant for the arrest of the accused.

MR. STRUKELING, a boarding house keeper on Sarah street, South Side, was victimized yesterday by a confidence operation to the amount of $120. He cashed a bogus check for that amount on a bank of Monongahela City.

GEO. ARBUCKLE, who picked up an overcoat belonging to a gentleman boarding at Hare's Hotel, and who was arrested by Detective Long with the garment in his possession, was yesterday sent up to Claremont for sixty days.

THE house of Mr. Samuel Collins, near Bridgeville, in South Fayette township, was entered by burglars Sunday evening, while the family were at church, and robbed of about one hundred dollars, worth of goods.

THE lamps are growing bolder. Two of these fellows visited the residence of Mr. George Albree, about seven o'clock last evening, and finding only the cook at home, they compelled her by threats to provide them with supper.

THE bell-punch has been adopted by the Birmingham Passenger Railway, and in consequence some of the old conductors have resigned. They claim that the wearing of the machine is an evidence that they are suspected of dishonesty.

ABOUT eleven o'clock last night a notice was left at the Central Station House for the Coroner to go over to the upper station house on the South Side to hold an inquest on the body of a man who had died there suddenly. The name of the deceased was not given.

THE pumping main leading from the lower works to the Bedford avenue reservoirs is in a precarious condition, owing to a disposition to slide down the hill. Superintendent Atkinson has had a force of men at work since Saturday evening making the line secure.

THE sixteenth annual session of the Beaver county Teachers' Institute commenced yesterday in the Court House in Beaver. Hon. J. P. Wickersham and other prominent instructors will be in attendance during the week. Mr. Gow will deliver a lecture to-morrow evening.

THE following cases of infectious diseases in the city during the week ending Saturday, 26th inst., are reported by Dr. Snively, Physician to the Board of Health: Scarlet fever, 11; typhoid fever, 6; Measles, 1; diphtheria, 1; smallpox, 1; varioloid, 1. Total 21.

WE HAVE received the second number of Wm. Semple's *Ladies' Journal*, which is fully equal to the initial one which was noticed at length in these columns. If the ladies would be fully posted concerning the fashions, they should take this neat periodical regularly.

S. MCDONALD & Co. are publishing a very handy little "monthly diary," the January issue being just out. It contains much useful and local matter for Pittsburgh and Allegheny, list of fire alarm stations, etc., with a regular diary for the month. It will be found very convenient.

A YOUNG man named Joseph Hook was arrested and confined in the lock-up last night, for a hearing on the charge of assault and battery with intent to commit a rape. A colored woman named Elizabeth Williams, residing in Virgin alley, near Smithfield street, made the complaint.

THERE were eighty-one applicants for shelter admitted to the Allegheny Station House last night, up to nine o'clock. It seems that many of these were inmates of the Young Men's Home, in this city, and the report of a case of small-pox in that institution caused them to seek lodging elsewhere.

SOMEBODY disposed to be in time writes to know whether, in making New Year visits, he must turn the corner of his card, and which corner, if the person he calls on is "not at home." We learn from authorities to the effect that if the card is left as a formality and Sunday visit, the intention to make a visit it must be